

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LVIII.]

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### CONTENTS.

|                                              | PAGE |
|----------------------------------------------|------|
| Epitome .....                                | 387  |
| Leading Articles:—                           |      |
| Departure of Sir Henry Blake from Hongkong   | 388  |
| The Kowloon-Canton Railway .....             | 388  |
| The Situation in the North .....             | 389  |
| The Condition of Queen's College .....       | 389  |
| The Sanitary Board's Constitution .....      | 390  |
| Amoy's Trade in 1902 .....                   | 390  |
| Sir Henry Blake's Departure .....            | 391  |
| The Administration of Hongkong .....         | 394  |
| The Northern Crisis .....                    | 394  |
| Prince Adalbert in Hongkong .....            | 395  |
| King's Park, Kowloon .....                   | 396  |
| Licensing Sessions .....                     | 396  |
| The Hongkong-Manila Run .....                | 396  |
| Hongkong Nursing Institution .....           | 396  |
| The Report of Queen's College .....          | 397  |
| Notes from the Botanic Gardens .....         | 397  |
| Canton .....                                 | 397  |
| Foochow .....                                | 398  |
| Port Arthur .....                            | 398  |
| Northern Notes .....                         | 398  |
| Correspondence .....                         | 399  |
| Reviews .....                                | 399  |
| The Yong Ampho Incident .....                | 399  |
| Supreme Court .....                          | 400  |
| The Hongkong Steam Water-boat Co., Ltd. .... | 403  |
| China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd. ....      | 403  |
| Across the New Territory .....               | 403  |
| Sporting Notes .....                         | 404  |
| Football .....                               | 405  |
| Shooting .....                               | 405  |
| Cricket .....                                | 406  |
| Yachting .....                               | 406  |
| Hongkong .....                               | 407  |
| Miscellaneous .....                          | 407  |
| Docks in the Far East .....                  | 407  |
| The Foochow Arsenal .....                    | 407  |
| Commercial .....                             | 408  |
| Shipping .....                               | 409  |

### BIRTHS.

On the 15th November, at Blanche Villa, Scott's Road, Singapore, the wife of H. A. SCOTT, of a daughter.

On the 16th November, at 7, Sahid Ali Road, Singapore, Mrs. LANGHAM CARTER, of a son.

On the 18th November, at S, Chaoufoong Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. S. NEESON, a daughter.

On the 20th November, at the Government Civil Hospital, the wife of J. J. LYSAUGHT, of a son.

On the 24th November, at "Ranfurly," Conduit Road, the wife of F. A. WENDT, of a son.

On the 24th November, at "Waterford," Macdonnell Road, the wife of L. M. XAVIER, Public Works Department, Hongkong, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 17th November, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. C. J. F. Symons, B.A., WILLIAM MCCORMACK, of Stevenson, to ISABELLA CAMPBELL PROVAN, of Glasgow, Scotland.

On the 19th November, at the residence of Mr. D. Willard Lyon, 85, Range Road, Shanghai, by the Rev. A. P. Parker, PHILIP LORING GILLET, of Seoul, to BERTHA LOUISE ALLEN, of Colorado Springs.

### DEATHS.

On the 12th November, at his residence, 16, Bluff, Yokohama, NICOLAS PHILLIPS KINGDON, aged 75 years.

On the 15th November, at No. 12, Wilkie Road, Singapore, VIVIAN EMIL GORDON, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. HOGAN, aged 2 years and 4 months.

On the 15th November, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, JOHN WILLIAM HARDING.

On the 16th November, 32, Seward Road, Shanghai, KATHLEEN AGNES, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. KINGSBURY.

On the 17th November, at his residence, 48a, Sinza Road, Shanghai, JOHN SMEDLEY, only son of the late SAMUEL SMEDLEY, aged 62 years.

### Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
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### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail arrived by the *Konig Albert* on the 25th inst., the Canadian Mail arrived by the *Empress of China* on the 24th inst., and the American Mail arrived by the *Coptic* on the 28th inst.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Empress Dowager of China was born 68 years ago on Saturday, the 28th inst.

The P. & O. s.s. *Malta*, conveying Sir Henry Blake, is due at Colombo on the 3rd prox.

A foolish article in *Le Courrier d'Haiphong* advances various reasons why the three provinces of Yunnan, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung, must be regarded as the French sphere of influence in Southern China.

The Japanese Consul at Newchwang reports to his Government that the quarantine enforced there against vessels coming from Shanghai and ports in South China, including Hongkong, has now been abolished.

It is stated in Chinese quarters in Shanghai that Hsianfu has been changed into Chang'anfu, and that Feng Lin-fang has been promoted to be the sub-prefect of that fu. The reason given for this change is that the Empress-Dowager contemplates going to Hsian.

A Tokyo despatch to the *Osaka Asahi* says that the Japanese authorities have estimated the strength of the Russian army at Port Arthur at 8,000 infantry, 1,200 artillery, 150 cavalry, and 300 sappers, and about 4,400 other troops at various forts in the vicinity of the port.

The *P. and T. Times* says:—"When the Russians entered Moukden and turned the Tartar General and other officials out of their yamens, the Tartar General attempted to commit suicide by swallowing gold, but was restrained by his friends." It was evidently not Russian gold.

Letters received in Shanghai from Manchuria state that Chinese merchants and traders are leaving Moukden daily in large numbers, bound for Shantung and Chili, there being no doubt amongst the people of Manchuria that war, either between China and Russia, or Japan and Russia, cannot be avoided.

The *N.-C. Daily News* Peking correspondent telegraphed on the 16th November:—"General Wogack arrived here yesterday to report on Manchurian affairs, and as the means of inter-communication between Viceroy Alexieff and M. Lessar, the Russian Minister at Peking, whose opinions on the question are supposed to differ.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says that the Korean Government was on the point of declaring Yong-ampho an open port, when M. Pavloff, the Russian Minister, made a strenuous protest and caused the Government to postpone the declaration.

The Chinese Government is reported to have consented to the establishment of a German Government Agent in Chinanfu, Shantung, whose power will be equal to that of a Consul. Matters affecting German interest in that region will be subject to this agent, whose establishment in China has been due to the near completion of the German railway between that city and Kiaochou.

A severe shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama, on the 10th inst.; while the *Japan Times* mentions a report that on the northern side of the Imperial University the earth has never ceased trembling since last month. The existence of such a disturbance is testified to by the seismograph kept in the Imperial University. The cause is not yet known, and the people in the neighbourhood are greatly terrified, lest they should suddenly be entombed alive some fine morning.

An extraordinary anonymous letter to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Singapore says that, as China's Manchu Government has sent assassins to Hongkong and other places to kill Chinese reformers, the reformers in their turn have sent assassins to Peking to remove the Empress Dowager and her Manchu advisers, and various high provincial officials, "but not the Emperor Kwang Hsu, who takes the reformers' part." Further, while the Manchu Government has devoted \$140,000 to the removal of reformers, the latter have set aside \$250,000 for the removal of their enemies. Our Shanghai contemporary rightly does not attach much importance to the letter.

The *Japan Mail* writes:—"If Russia have any honest intention of averting the calamity of war, it is time that she spoke definitely. She is playing with fire at present, and although she thinks perhaps that to extinguish the flames speedily if they break out is within the compass of her great power, we give her Emperor the credit of being a peace-lover and we believe that many of her wisest patriots have no desire to force Japan's hand. The whole responsibility rests with her, and her perpetual procrastination is creating a situation intolerable to all nationals in the Far East. She has some obligations to discharge besides those dictated by her spirit of imperialism.

On the afternoon of the 15th inst. Prince Ching called on Mr. Conger, U. S. Minister at Peking, and told him that he had learned that Germany intends to support Russia both in the Balkans and the Far East. He asked Mr. Conger if the report was accurate. Mr. Conger, referring to the re-occupation of Moukden, said it was a childish threat on the part of Russia to oppose the opening of Moukden and Antung. Mr. Conger further remarked with regard to the Japanese-Russian negotiations that the Powers were anxious to avert a war between these two Powers, and that as Japan was eager to win the goodwill and sympathy of the Powers, the negotiations might be expected to reach a satisfactory conclusion, although the progress was very slow. This, at least, is the *Mainichi's* account.



## DEPARTURE OF SIR HENRY BLAKE FROM HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 21st November.)

To-day Hongkong bids farewell to H.E. Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G., who, after governing the Colony for the period of five years, all but four days, now goes to Colombo to administer the government of the most important Crown Colony in the British Empire. It is a fact well recognised that Hongkong is a Colony which calls for the highest administrative ability on the part of those entrusted by the Crown with temporary rule over it. There are circumstances in the situation of Hongkong which make it unique among the colonial possessions of Great Britain, and that these render the position of its Governor particularly hard it is unnecessary to insist. Therefore it must be remembered that, however often it has been necessary in the past few years to criticise and condemn the attitude of the Government and its head, it is not because the difficulties of the case have been overlooked. To use a conventional phrase, but in the circumstances a true one, honest differences of opinion have been felt; and all comment arising therefrom has been conscientious. There has been only one really serious ground for dissension between the head of the Government and the mass of the European community, and that is with regard to the Chinese question. We have never been among those who have advocated a sternly repressive attitude toward the lower-class Chinese (for it is regarding this class that the chief difficulties have arisen); but, in common alike with the European residents of this Colony and, it must also in fairness be added, with the respectable Chinese community, we have held that the policy of undue leniency has tended to promote licence, and is therefore its own condemnation. If the Government is to show any prejudice, it should be in favour only of the law-abiding, irrespective of nationality. It has often seemed during the late rule that this has not sufficiently been the case. We must agree with what His Excellency said on Thursday, that our sense of responsibility and of justice compels us so to deal with the Chinese with whom we come into contact as to satisfy them that in Hongkong they will find a Government fair and just; but no Government can properly be considered perfectly fair that does not afford adequate security for property as well as life. Still, in justice to Sir HENRY BLAKE, it must be said that he has not always got the credit due to him for such measures of discipline as have been properly carried out. With regard to the deportation of undesirable characters, he has been strongly in favour of the protection of the Colony by such measures, and, we believe, the idea of transmitting to their native villages the names and offences of bad characters who get into trouble again after having once been in the stocks originated with him. Unfortunately the policy has not been consistent, and, with the usual ill-haps of fame, the mistakes are remembered rather than the successes, which indeed have been seldom attributed to their real author.

It is pleasanter to turn to the striking features which have marked the term of office of Sir HENRY BLAKE in Hongkong. The period has been stirring in its record of progress, if also in its misfortunes of typhoon, pestilence, and drought. The increase of our territory from thirty-two square miles to about four hundred forms alone a remarkable chapter; and that this great addition was made with so little trouble as there was,

and that peace has reigned in the New Territory ever since, are in themselves notable. There have been points, in the organising administration of this territory which have called for censure—in its early days at least; but now, if the Colony can but get the hoped-for communication by rail with Canton, there is every prospect of a noble future for our possession on the mainland of Kwangtung. Hongkong itself, on the Island, has grown during the five years almost beyond recognition, and, by a scheme initiated during Sir HENRY BLAKE's rule, and with his warm approval, promises to grow far more still when the new Praya reclamation plan, made public in 1901, becomes a fact. But, building-space on the Island having increased only slightly, the growth in size has not kept pace with the growth in population, with the excess of which has come a host of attendant evils, the chief of which are greater overcrowding, permanence of the plague scourge, and a marked inadequacy of the water-supply. Under the late government, vigorous attempts have been made to cope with these great blots on the Colony. In certain respects we may think that His Excellency has not been firm enough; but at least it cannot be said that he has not devoted anxious thought and numberless hours to the consideration of the problems involved. In the plague question, particularly, he has thrown himself heart and soul into the struggle and has studied it, as a layman, as no man else in Hongkong. We have not subdued plague here, but at least we have put an end to panic, and we treat it on more scientific lines than before. It is fully understood now that air and light are wanted in the homes of the poor, and there is a prospect of the Colony some day profiting by the measures which have been brought forward during the past year or so. There is the new Trust, the formation of which it has been decided to recommend (and this is the most notable point in the Governor's speech on Thursday), at whose disposal funds will be placed for the purpose of remodelling this city of ours. Sir HENRY BLAKE estimated twenty years as the period within which, at a moderate cost to the Colony, the necessary improvement of Victoria should be carried out. The time seems long, but we have many years of improvidence and sanitary carelessness to repair. The question of water-supply is almost equally important, and, though Sir HENRY BLAKE has acted against the wishes of a very strong section of the community in listening to the Chinese agitation for rider-mains, there is at least expert opinion to be quoted to the effect that water-famines are now remoter from us than before. If the Tyantuk reservoir is successfully carried out, we shall at least be able to meet present requirements. In the meantime Kowloon at least has been provided with an ample supply of water.

It would be tiresome to enumerate all the public measures which have been passed since November, 1898, and it would not of course give a correct view of Sir HENRY BLAKE's personal share in the direction of this Colony. There have been times when he has opposed the Colony's wishes, as in the water question mentioned above; there have been others when he has backed them up with all his power, if unsuccessfully as in that of the removal of the Naval Yard from its present site; and there have been times when he has led the Colony, as in certain matters connected with plague sanitation. As we have said, the most unfortunate aspect of his rule, in the general estimation of local residents, is his mistaken policy toward certain sections of the Chinese. From

the disfavour attaching to him therefrom he has suffered not a little, too much indeed, in public opinion. But in bidding good-bye to him to-day Hongkong can at least do so in a spirit of esteem for his personal character and for that sympathy with most varied forms of sport which he has always shown, both in theory and in practice. For the man there is nothing but good-will on this occasion of his departure from Hongkong; for the Governor there is at least respect for the courage he has had of his convictions, even if tempered by regret at some of them. In his new home, all Hongkong will join in wishing success and prosperity to him and to Lady Blake, who has for five years presided over Government House and administered the hospitality thereof.

## THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

(Daily Press, 25th November.)

We are unfeignedly glad that His Excellency Sir HENRY BLAKE, when bidding farewell to the community in the City Hall on Saturday, made special reference to what should be generally regarded as the burning question of the hour in this Colony. Our late Governor was deeply impressed with the supreme importance to Hongkong of the railway question. He said—and we make no apology for repeating his words in full:—“But, great as is the importance of the structural improvement of Hongkong there is a matter of greater and more pressing moment that I wish to bring forcibly before you in these last moments before I leave your shores. That is, the pressing necessity of utilising the British concession that has been granted for a railway from Canton to the borders of our territory. That concession has been granted to a British syndicate, and it is their duty to utilise it and supply the natural seaport terminus to the great arterial line to Hankow, lest possible developments be sought inimical to the interests of Hongkong. We have not built up our Empire by being laggards in the race for developments necessary for the expansion of the trade of the world, and ‘letting I dare not wait upon I would’ has never conquered a position nor retained it for either men or nations.” These words, uttered with unusual solemnity, as a farewell warning to the citizens of Hongkong, are pregnant with meaning, and should be constantly and actively borne in mind. They must not be dismissed as merely part of a valedictory speech; they are a fateful and timely reminder of the golden opportunity, now within our reach, but which, if neglected, may prove the most disastrous omission in the history of the Colony.

The project of a railway to connect the Kowloon peninsula with the city of Canton is now quite an old one. It was first seriously talked about some sixteen years ago, and a Chinese syndicate was two or three years later, in 1889 (if we remember aright), formed to obtain the concession for its construction. After much trouble His Excellency the then Viceroy of the Two Kwang approved the scheme and strongly recommended it to the Imperial Government at Peking, but for some reason—probably sufficient palm-oil had not been dispensed—it never received the Imperial sanction. A survey was made, however, and an official document, of which a translation was published in our columns, was issued, giving the route it would take. The Kowloon terminus was to be at Sam-shui-po, at that time on the Chinese frontier; thence it was to be carried to Sham chun, Po-kak, and



Shih-lung, passing through Tang-tau-hia and Chan-ping. From Shih-lung or Shek-loong it was to cross the river at Niu Shek-tong, go on through the Liang family's village, Tang-ha, Tung-chung-tau, and Shik-tse'an, where it would again cross the river to Ta-tun-tsan and Sinkai. From thence, passing to the back of Sin-tang, it would come out on the river and enter the Pwan-yu district at Nan-kang. From there, passing to the back of the Polo Temple and the Niushan Batteries, it would reach Wuyung, a market town, from which place it would be carried across the Sze-pai-ti to the south-east corner of the city of Canton, having its terminus at the Tientsin Matow, the official wharf. The total length of this line was said to be 380 li, or about 127 miles. Foreigners were not to be allowed to hold shares in the undertaking, which was to be owned and managed by Chinese only. A wave of reactionary feeling having set in at the capital, the question of railway construction was hung up, altogether for several years, and nothing further was attempted in this direction for some time.

The next move was made near the end of the nineteenth century by foreign Syndicates, and in 1898, after lengthy negotiations, concessions were granted by the Imperial Government at Peking to various syndicates to construct railways. The Belgian-American syndicate obtained the right to make the railway from Hankow to Canton, and a British syndicate secured in September of that year the concession to construct a line from Canton to Kowloon. Beyond making the preliminary survey, and procuring reports and estimates, nothing has been done by this syndicate towards carrying their concession into effect. More than five years have elapsed, and while work on the Hankow-Canton section is progressing steadily, not a single sod has been turned of the line to connect it with its seaward terminus. The fact is being brought ominously home to us, and the recent completion of the first section of another line from Canton to Samshui has painfully emphasised our backwardness in this great work of opening up South China. The line, it is true, presents some natural difficulties, but these are easily surmountable by engineering science, and were well known when the concession was applied for. They certainly are not of a character to daunt any enterprising constructors, nor is the amount of capital required at all calculated to frighten financiers. It is estimated that the total cost of the line will not greatly exceed a million sterling, and this ought to be readily obtainable in London. If the present syndicate are shy of the undertaking, fearing lest it should not at first yield a good interest on outlay, we make no doubt the Imperial Government, or the Colonial Government, with the sanction and assistance of Downing Street, will come to the rescue either with the promise of a subsidy or guarantee, or will take over the work altogether, seeing its immense importance to this great naval depot and centre of commerce. What Russia has done for the Trans-Siberian Railway, Germany for the railways in Shantung, for the benefit of Kiaochau, and France for the sake of connecting Tonkin ports by rail with the Yunnan frontier, Great Britain can surely do for the maintenance of the third port in the Empire, its one stronghold in the Far East. But in any case the railway must be made. It is of paramount importance that the line connecting Kowloon with Canton should be made, made without delay, made with British capital, and be under British control. There is no time to be lost; valuable years have been frittered away; and it

is high time the colonists took the matter in hand in grim earnest, with the full determination to press it to the earliest possible conclusion. As Sir HENRY BLAKE intimated, it is not the wont of Britons to be laggards in the race for developments; let us not incur such a reproach in Hong-kong.

### THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH.

(Daily Press, 26th November.)

Our Port Arthur correspondent, in his letter which we published yesterday, announced that things have quieted down at the Russian port and that a peaceful issue of the Manchurian question may now be expected. This is very satisfactory to hear and to set against other statements, such as that war, though not immediate, can only be postponed until spring. What is Russia's idea of the lines on which the settlement will be effected may be seen in our correspondent's letter. It is that Japanese operations in Corea will be interfered with as little as possible and that the demands of foreign trade in Manchuria will be satisfied as much as possible. This is Russia's idea, we say, that is of moderate Russia, the country of the Tsar who is so passionate an adherent of peace, in Mr. BALFOUR's words. That there are countless other Russians who are not at all passionate advocates of peace must be admitted. The Far Eastern representatives of these less mild people are very anxious to impress on Japan that her position in Corea is dependent on the goodwill of Russia, which is hardly a position that a nation like Japan can tolerate. However, we are willing to believe that a large section, at least, of the responsible Russian authorities up North sincerely wishes to settle matters amicably, if this can be done without Russia having to withdraw too much. They are ready, it seems, to give foreign traders a certain amount of rights, though not all they ask for. But they will not evacuate Manchuria, being on this point at one with the war party. As the effort to make Russia keep her promise seems now confined to ineffective China, any expectations of the withdrawal of the intruder, except after defeat in war, may be dismissed. The Chinese Foreign Office derived little comfort in its endeavour to find out what help China could expect in turning Russia out of Manchuria. One Minister at Peking practically told them that as they had sold Manchuria to Russia they could not expect to be aided to get it back by force. There is little wonder that the stories of the forthcoming abandonment of Peking should have been revived. According to what native officials in Shanghai say, there can be little doubt that a flight from Peking to Hsian (which is to be renamed Changan, the "City of Eternal Peace") is seriously being prepared for, and that the sovereignty of China will, after more than a thousand years' interval, once more repose in the capital of the T'ANG dynasty. The question, which is perhaps not considered in Peking, is whether the present dynasty would survive such an abject confession of failure.

The other aspect of the Northern crisis at present is where the relations between Japan and Russia only are concerned. Of course, no peace settlement of the Manchuria question can be expected as long as Japan and Russia are without a definite understanding with regard to North China and Corea alike. Nearly a fortnight ago the *Japan Mail* wrote that "we must be getting very near the psychological moment in the negotiations between Russia and Japan." The Yokohama journal points out

that difficulties seem to have arisen after the transfer of negotiations from S. Petersburg to the Far East—a result, it adds, easy to comprehend, since Viceroy ALEXIÉFF's councils are subject to influences not so directly potential in S. Petersburg and since the statesmen of the central Government would naturally be willing to accept diplomatic responsibilities from which negotiators on the distant scene might shrink. The *Mail* continues:—"Be that as it may, it does not appear that when Japan formulated her proposals under the new conditions they were considered altogether acceptable, and some modification would seem to have then been made. It is for Russia's answer to that modification, apparently, that Japan is now waiting. . . . Even supposing the answer to be generally favourable, there may be, and probably will be, some further delay. Nevertheless the final issue cannot be much longer delayed. Japan appears to be fully prepared for any eventuality, and that she will stand to her guns rather than accept any humiliating settlement may be taken for granted." If this represents correctly the attitude of official Japan, (and the *Mail* is credited with knowing that better than any other non-Japanese paper) then it is obvious that, for hopes of a soon approaching peaceful issue to be justified, Russia must be absolutely honest, as well as reasonable in tone, in her answer to the Island Empire.

### THE CONDITION OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

(Daily Press, 20th November.)

The report on Queen's College, laid before the Legislative Council yesterday, reveals much that it is very necessary to know, if, as Sir HENRY BLAKE said in his farewell speech to the Council, our hopes for the stability of the Colony in the future are to rest upon the education of the minds and character of the people. The great majority of the thousand boys at Queen's College are Chinese, with a number of Portuguese, Indians, and Eurasians, and a very few English. It is plain, therefore, that Queen's College is an important instrument in determining this education of mind and character. This year a new method in conducting the examination was adopted by Messrs. A. M. THOMSON, E. A. IRVING (Inspector of Schools), and S. B. C. ROSS. The former attempts to draw up the school in a graduated order of merit were abandoned, and the examiners set themselves to enquire whether the work of the school is laid upon the soundest possible lines. The examination has hitherto been limited to the Upper School; but the examiners this year very truly remark that if it comes to a choice between inspecting the Upper and Lower Schools, the latter (which is staffed by Chinese masters, principally, the least experienced taking the lowest classes) can less safely be neglected. The inspection lasted about a fortnight, and included the examination of individual boys, the inspection of note-books, and a study of the masters' methods. The verdict of the examiners can hardly be regarded with much satisfaction, either by the Queen's College authorities or by the Colony generally. But it is eminently one which requires to be heard. Mr. IRVING, in forwarding the report, on behalf of the Governing Body of Queen's College, to the Colonial Secretary, says that it appears to that body that the teaching at the College should be so organised that a boy who has succeeded in reaching the upper classes "ought with



reasonable diligence and ability to have acquired a fair knowledge of Chinese, a reasonably good knowledge of English, as it is spoken and written and printed, and ought to be able, with considerable facility, to translate from one language to the other." The examiners did not find any attempt made to teach the boys to do the talking of colloquial English until the higher classes were reached. In Classes VII. to IV., the boy who had presumably been studying from two to five years showed by no means a sufficiently rapid improvement. Except in Classes I. and II. there was little attempt at conversing, while in the Lower School there, was a general unwillingness to attempt to say anything—no doubt partly due to nervousness, as the examiners say. The Lower School masters are mostly Chinese, and they employ Chinese, not English, in giving directions to their pupils. Turning to composition (including handwriting spelling, and dictation), we find the examiners' verdict on Class I. to be that some excellent work done at the top is counter-balanced by the performances of boys who should, apparently, have hardly reached the Upper School at all, much less the top class. In Class II., out of 91 boys, it was estimated that 12 corresponded with Standard VII. in a Board School, 21 with Standard VI., 25 with V., 19 with IV., and 14 with III. The "tail" was again feeble. On the other hand, in the Lower School writing, spelling, and dictation were, on the whole, good. Reading seems to have been unintelligently done, there being too much memorising to which Chinese boys are only too prone. The examiners found the reading-books unsuitable (in which decision we cordially agree with them), and say that reading-books suited to local needs are badly wanted. In geography and history, the mere memory again seems to have been too much relied on. The result of this is as bad here as it is at home. As for translation, in the opinion of the examiners "there is no boy in the school at present who could make a translation of a despatch or petition from Chinese to English which could be accepted without very careful checking." Moreover, "a Chinese boy who enters Queen's College, knowing nothing of his own written language, is not likely to learn any, while the boy who enters knowing something about it is, under the present system, extremely likely to forget what he already knows." A fairly severe indictment it must be admitted. Mathematics showed better results, but the examiners ask for "smartness as well as accuracy." Finally, under the heading of "Discipline and Organisation," the report states that, except in the matter of promoting boys who do not deserve promotion, the organisation is very good. "We say this, however," continue the examiners, "with a knowledge that the less experienced Chinese masters are to be put under an English normal master, and that the staff teaching Chinese is to be strengthened." The discipline is said to be excellent, except that the importance of making civil replies is not sufficiently impressed on the scholars.

The examiners append to their report certain "General Recommendations," the gist of which is that colloquial English should be made the most important instrument for teaching English, which it certainly is not at present; that the teaching of history and geography should be systematised throughout the school; that less attention should be paid to mathematics, at present the strongest point; that reading should be studied intelligently, not, as now, under the two heads of reading with, and reading without, comprehension of the mean-

ing; that the teaching of Chinese should be altogether reorganised; and that the less competent Chinese masters should be placed under the supervision of English masters. Mr. IRVING, in his letter on behalf of the Governing Body of Queen's College, says that, "speaking generally, they agree with the recommendations of the examiners." We may therefore be permitted to hope that the unsatisfactory state of affairs will be remedied within a not over-long space of time.

### THE SANITARY BOARD'S CONSTITUTION.

(Daily Press, 24th November.)

On Thursday last, the 19th instant, the first reading was got through of the important bill known as the Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903. We wish to draw attention to a very noteworthy point in the amended ordinance; which, though it makes a vital alteration in the constitution of the Sanitary Board, has excited so far no public comment. In Ordinance No. 1 of 1903, section 8 reads as follows:—"The Sanitary Board shall consist of the Director of Public Works, the Registrar-General, the Captain Superintendent of Police, and the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and not more than six additional members, four of whom (two being Chinese) shall be appointed by the Governor and two elected by such ratepayers as are included in the Special and Common Jury Lists, and also by such ratepayers as are exempt from serving on juries on account of their professional avocations. Non-official members of the Board shall hold office for three years." The amending ordinance repeals this section and puts in its stead the following:—"The Sanitary Board shall consist of the Principal Civil Medical Officer (who shall *ex-officio* be President of the Board), the Director of Public Works, the Registrar-General, the Captain Superintendent of Police, the Medical Officer of Health, and not more than six additional members, four of whom," etc., as in the old ordinance. We have italicised the words "Medical Officer of Health," this being the point to which we desire to call attention. It will be seen that one additional official member has been put on the Board, making it now include five official and not more than six other members. This change still further reduces the very small elective and popular proportion in the constitution of the Sanitary Board. Two-elevenths is the amount of representation to be accorded to the ratepayers in future, surely a ridiculously small share. One-fifth, as before, is niggardly enough, but the ratepayers have been perforce obliged to rest content with this amount of voice in the government of a Colony in which they are so important a part. The reduction of the proportion of representation should not be allowed to pass without challenge. If the possession of a share in the sanitary control of Hongkong is worth anything to us (and who can doubt that it is?), it is not right that the Government should cut away from this share by increasing the official representation without any increase of the non-official side. As the Board is constituted by the new bill, there might be little chance of the only two elected members doing much against five official and four Government nominees, were a question to arise that the Government wished settled against the desire, of the rate-paying community.

There is another sentence at the end of Section 8 of the amending ordinance, after the words "shall hold office for three years."

This does not occur in No. 1 of 1898, but runs: "The Principal Civil Medical Officer shall give such directions as may be necessary for carrying out and giving effect to the decisions of the Board, and shall be the administrative head of the Sanitary Department." This gives the Principal Civil Medical Officer a much more strongly defined position, at the expense of the Board. It will be remembered that Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON, in their report published last year, recommended the appointment of a Sanitary Commissioner, *ex-officio* chairman of the Sanitary Board and head of the Sanitary Department. By the new bill the P.C.M.O. assumes a similar position to that contemplated for this Sanitary Commissioner, but whereas Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON professed great anxiety not to encroach on the powers of the Board, in the new proposal the Board's powers seem distinctly interfered with by this delegation.

### AMOY'S TRADE IN 1902.

(Daily Press, 27th November.)

Mr. Consul HAUSSE's report on the trade of Amoy in 1902 is considerably behind those on the neighbouring ports, in point of time. It was at the end of August and beginning of September that we considered the reports on Swatow and Foochow. Neither of those reports indicated a very good state of affairs along the coast. Swatow, it is true, managed to keep fifth place among treaty ports, but did not by any means keep pace with the growth of the four leaders; at Foochow the prospect was quite gloomy. It cannot be said that Amoy's position was satisfactory either. In sterling there was an increase in the total value of trade from £2,177,186 in 1901 to £2,231,041 in 1902; but Mr. HAUSSE says that both imports and exports generally showed a falling-off, and the apparent increase was more than made up by the increased importation of rice and opium, which together accounted for an additional import value of £360,219. A drought, accompanied by a bad early rice-harvest, visitations of plague and cholera in the neighbourhood of the port, increased taxation, general lawlessness in the province, and a disastrous fire in October combined to render the year unpropitious to business men, few of whom made money in 1902. Turning to detailed figures, we find that the value of the direct trade of Amoy with foreign countries, including re-exports £550,035, was £2,579,612, of which the British share (almost entirely through Hongkong and Singapore) was £1,286,131. With Hongkong alone, exports amounted to £17,844 against the £17,831 of 1901, and imports to only £177,722 against the £1,035,711 of 1901. Hongkong benefited by the increase in the importation of opium, being able to unload the large stock of Persian drug here at the beginning of the year. The growth of the morphia import was marked, and Mr. HAUSSE remarks that the practice of morphia injection appears to be increasingly common among the coolie class. Exports of native produce were trifling, due to the general poverty of Fokien province and the lack of proper means of communication. Cost of carriage is prohibitive, and the export trade is confined to a small area near Amoy itself. The local tea trade was quite extinct in 1902, as far as foreigners were concerned, though a British firm was making an attempt (of which, it will be remembered, we have heard something here) to revive it. It is hoped, Mr. HAUSSE says, in a few years to produce teas suitable



for the European and American markets. But Amoy's position as the port of transshipment for the tea-trade of Formosa is seriously threatened, for with the projected harbour improvements at Kelung, aided by Japanese legislation in favour of direct shipment from Formosa, Amoy must in time be beaten by Kelung as port of shipment to America.

Passing over the transit trade, which was comparatively insignificant, we turn to what Mr. HAUSSEY says about emigration. 102,516 passengers left Amoy in 1902, of whom 76,896 were emigrants to the Straits. Passage rates were lower than in 1901, but the charterers on the Singapore and Penang line did well all the same. Small success attended the attempt to induce Chinese to emigrate with their families direct from Amoy to British North Borneo. Terms were liberal, but failed to attract, and the Chinese authorities gave no encouragement.

The total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared was 1,983,759 tons in 1902, against 1,801,457 in 1901. The British share was 1,056 vessels entered and cleared, with a tonnage of 1,321,112 tons. The only serious competitor of British shipping was the Japanese, with 440 steamers and sailing vessels, 380,415 tons, a slight reduction since 1901. Of the total value of the foreign and coast trade, roughly 64 per cent. was carried in British vessels, 20 per cent. by Japanese, 4 per cent. by Chinese, and 4 per cent. by German vessels, the balance being divided among the vessels of five other nationalities. Under inland steam navigation rules there were entered and cleared 10,171 steam launches of a tonnage of 285,336 tons, as compared with 8,952 entries and clearances, of 286,756 tons in 1901.

Finally, with regard to mining concessions, Mr. HAUSSEY records that in the early part of the year a British syndicate, formed in Hongkong, acquired from the original native concessionaries certain mining and prospecting rights in the district of Au Chi. This and the adjoining district of Lung Yen appear to be rich in iron and coal of excellent quality, which would fetch remunerative prices, could they be conveyed cheaply to the coast. The mines are only some 60 miles inland, but under present conditions the cost of carriage is quite prohibitive, owing to the absence of all transport facilities. The difficulties are not insuperable, and it is in this direction, Mr. HAUSSEY says, that the introduction of foreign capital and consequent development of industrial activity will most surely rescue the Chinese of this region from their poverty, and enable the trade of the port to emerge from its present stagnation and dull monotony.

The death at Shanghai on the 17th inst. of Mr. John Smedley removes one who was well known in Hongkong in the 'Sixties. Mr. Smedley was born in 1841 in Sydney, N.S.W., where he was educated, and afterwards served articles as pupil to Messrs. Mansfield Bros., architects. In 1866, at the age of 25, he came to Hongkong, and was shortly afterwards admitted as junior partner in the firm of Storey and Son, architects and civil engineers. Among his first works was the decoration of the Theatre of the Club Lusitano in Shelley Street, sketches for scenery, and a picture of the Ball at the inauguration of the Club. Mr. Smedley also painted the large picture of Hongkong, now in the possession of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. This was done from the deck of the *Johns Adams*. In 1872 he moved to Yokohama and commenced practice there. In 1880 he returned to Australia, where he lived for 11 years. Back in Yokohama in 1891, he went to Hankow in 1894, and finally to Shanghai in 1897. He leaves a wife and family.

## SIR HENRY BLAKE'S DEPARTURE.

### PRESENTATION OF CIVIL SERVICE ADDRESS.

At Government House on the 20th inst. H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., was presented with an address from the civil servants of Hongkong. The ceremony took place in the banqueting hall, which was beautifully decorated with plants and palms, the decorations having been carried out by Mr. W. J. Tutoher, of the Afforestation and Botanical Department. H.E. the Governor and Lady Blake sat at a table at the head of the hall. Among those present were Chief Justice Sir W. M. Goodman, His Honour A. G. Wise (Puisne Judge), Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary), and Mr. May, Hon. Sir Henry Berkeley (Attorney-General) and Lady Berkeley, Hon. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General) and Mrs. Brewin, Hon. W. Chatham (Director of Public Works), Hon. Basil R. H. Taylor (Harbour Master), Capt. F. W. Lyons (Superintendent of Police) and Mrs. Lyons, Hon. L. A. M. Johnston (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Mr. R. F. Johnston (Acting Clerk of Councils), Mr. S. B. C. Ross (Acting Postmaster-General), Mr. P. H. Jones (Assistant Director of Public Works), Mr. C. Clementi (Assistant Registrar-General), Mr. C. McL. Messer (Land Office), Mr. P. P. G. Wodehouse, Mr. J. Dyer Ball, Mr. A. Sath, Mr. J. W. Jones, Mr. C. J. Xavier, Dr. T. Bateson Wright, Mr. J. W. Hanson (Chief Detective-Inspector), Mr. G. A. Woodcock, Dr. W. W. Pearce, Dr. B. T. T. Barnett, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, Major C. G. Pritchard, Mr. H. W. Slade, Mr. Nathan Wright, Mr. E. A. Irving, Mr. E. Jones, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Mr. J. J. Bryan, Mr. George Thomas, Mr. Bruce Shepherd, Mr. G. H. Wakeman, H. C. Nicolle, Mr. J. Ballin, Inspector W. S. Hudson, Mr. Lu Ki Kwong, Mr. Wong Kwong Tue, Mr. Au Fung Chi, Mr. Chan Pui, Mr. Tung How, Mr. Chan Sing. The arrangements for the reception of the guests were carried out by Inspector D. Gourlay, of the Hongkong Police.

Sir W. M. GOODMAN said:—Your Excellency, I have been entrusted with the pleasant duty of presenting to Your Excellency an address which the members of the Civil Service of this Colony desire to offer to you on the occasion of your approaching departure from Hongkong. Before reading that address I should like, in a very few, simple-spoken words, to assure Your Excellency how sincerely we regret that you are leaving us. Those of us who have had the privilege of meeting you frequently in connection with your public and social duties feel that we are losing, not only an able Governor, but also, if I may presume to say so, a wise and sympathetic friend. Any member of the Service who may have had occasion to approach you in any difficulty or perplexity could always feel sure of a courteous reception and a kindly and patient hearing. We could always feel sure that he would receive wise counsel or directions from a chief who would go fully into the matter, and who was never anxious to save himself trouble or to shirk the responsibility of a decision. Earnest and thorough as your work has been, it has not diminished the kindness of your heart, the warmth and geniality of your hospitality, or the keenness of the interest you have always taken in all that conduces to the welfare and well-being of the Civil Servants in this Colony. I can, therefore, assure Your Excellency that the document which I am about to read is no merely formal address, but one which expresses, however inadequately, the actual sentiments of those who have signed it, and who have had the advantage of serving under you during the period of your administration here in Hongkong. This document is signed by more than two hundred and fifty members of the Civil Service, and it is enclosed in a blackwood cover which has been specially carved for the occasion, and which we hope, will remind you of Hongkong. Blackwood is a durable material, but I venture to predict that it will not outlast the esteem in which Your Excellency's memory will be held by those on whose behalf I am now speaking

and in whose name I will now proceed to read the address. (Applause.)

TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, G.C.M.G. GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE COLONY OF HONGKONG AND ITS DEPENDENCIES, AND VICE-ADMIRAL OF THE SAME.

May it please Your Excellency,—Before Your Excellency leaves this Colony to take up the important appointment which His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer upon you, it is the desire of those who have served under you in Hongkong to express their regret at the prospect of your early departure, and the high respect and admiration which they have learned to feel for Your Excellency.

All sections of the community must be aware that since your arrival in this Colony in 1898, you have never spared yourself in labouring for its welfare, but none can know this so well as those who have had the privilege of working under your direction.

The period of your administration has been a momentous one in the history of the Colony, and has had its special difficulties and anxieties. Not only has Hongkong grown steadily in wealth and prosperity, but its area has been largely extended by the occupation of the New Territory.

With the advance of the Colony in Imperial and commercial importance, increased responsibilities and new problems have arisen, demanding from the Governor no small measure of sagacity and administrative skill. In our own endeavours conscientiously to perform our humbler part in the increasing labours of the Government, we have all been cheered and encouraged by the knowledge that the highest example of hard work, energy, and enthusiasm has been shown us by Your Excellency; and at the same time we desire gratefully to acknowledge the courtesy, consideration, and sympathy which you, as head of the Civil Service, have invariably extended to all its members.

The Crown has already recognised Your Excellency's administrative abilities by conferring upon you the highest appointments in several of the colonies of the Empire. In your administration of the Bahamas, Newfoundland and Jamaica, and here again in Hongkong, your Excellency has proved that the Royal choice could have fallen on none worthier or better fitted to carry on the high traditions of British justice, integrity, impartiality and earnestness which, no less than in the mother-country, are so proudly cherished in the King's Dominions beyond the Seas.

The experience gained by your Excellency during so long a period and in so many Colonies has added year by year to the value of your services. It was therefore with great satisfaction that we, the Civil Servants in this Colony, learned that His Majesty had selected you to be Governor of the Colony of Ceylon, one of the fairest as it is one of the most important of all His Majesty's possessions.

We feel confident that your Excellency's term of administration in Ceylon will be accompanied by the uniform success which has attended your administration of four other Colonies; and the Civil Service of Hongkong, while regretfully taking leave of a Head for whom it has the highest regard, congratulates the sister-service in Ceylon on its acquisition of so capable, just, and considerate a Governor.

In conclusion, we desire to express our heartfelt wish that, not only in Ceylon but elsewhere, good health, prosperity and happiness may long be granted both to Your Excellency and Lady Blake.

We have the honour to subscribe ourselves  
Your Excellency's

Most obedient humble servants,

[Here followed signatures.]

H. E. THE GOVERNOR said:—Sir William Goodman and Gentlemen,—I thank you for the expression of your regret at the severance of our official connection, and for your generous appreciation of my desire that in the performance of onerous duties by the Civil Servants of the Colony you should not be unduly weighted by want of consideration on my part. My life has been spent in the service of the Crown, and my Colonial experience has been varied. I know what is sometimes not realised, how large a part the Civil Servants play in securing those



conditions, without which there could be no security of person or property. The machine of State works smoothly, and all is well, when you are each doing your own allotted task; and I, with all my experience behind me, have no hesitation in saying that no body of public servants in the wide Empire of the King have done their work more faithfully than you during the five years that I have known you. On the taking over of the New Territory we were confronted with the fact that more men were required to fill certain newly-created offices, and that we must obtain them from our affiliated Eastern Colonies or disregard all precedent, and bring down from Canton and appoint the 'unpassed cadets' who were there for the study of Chinese. Happily, I was given a free hand, and these young gentlemen began their real work while they were still in a state of official incubation. I am entirely satisfied with the result. I hold that there is but one standard for official work, and that is a man's best; and my experience is that the capable man who gives his best is certain of recognition when the occasion offers. You have in this Colony a proof of this, for here you have had two able and conscientious workers who have gone through their entire service in the Colony until they have reached the position within it of Colonial Secretary; and it is a great satisfaction to me that I shall leave one of these gentlemen, my friend, Mr. May, as the officer administering the Government on my departure to-morrow. On behalf of Lady Blake as for myself, I thank you again most warmly for your good wishes, which we most heartily reciprocate; and in saying good-bye, I personally thank you for the thoroughness of your work, which has made mine easy and pleasant, and which will, I hope, bring to you, gentlemen, in the future the due reward for public service faithfully and efficiently performed. And now gentlemen I have the pleasure of thanking Sir William Goodman for the very kind words in the prologue to this address, this beautiful address which you have presented to me; and it will be preserved by me through all my life, and I shall always look with the keenest pleasure upon it. Perhaps, gentlemen, I may be permitted to indulge in a little episode. I think you are very fortunate in certain ways. The instinct of hard work is among you and always has been, and as I said yesterday in my address to the Council criticism is a thing that ought to be not unwelcome, and fair criticism should never be burked. We have the good fortune to have in the Colony a Press which I have no hesitation in saying is not only independent but is as fair a Press as I have known in any part; its standard is high, and it is absolutely free from that ferocity and such personalities as I have seen now and again in other parts of the world (Applause). Gentlemen some among us—the Civil Servants of the Crown—very often murmur because they think that just weight has not been given to their deserts. Well, it is well to remember that the person who is most anxious as a rule to secure the best hand is the man who is responsible for the appointment that has to be made, and he is personally interested to a greater extent than the young members of the Service sometimes give him credit for. I remember, gentlemen on one occasion in another Colony a rather important appointment was vacant, and I had to consider whom I should recommend for it, and after a very full consideration I came to the conclusion that a certain gentleman was best fitted for that office. He had not been recommended; nobody had mentioned him. Now, I may tell you, very few people have ever mentioned names to me in matters of appointments, but I appointed him, greatly to his own surprise, and I am glad to say that he has been a conspicuous success, and I remember reading some time afterwards in the Press expressions of wonder as to whom it was, what influence he could have secured to have got the appointment; the underlying idea being that no appointment could ever be secured without some outside influence to push a man forward. Now, as I have said, gentlemen, in answer to your address, believe me, that wherever there is a good man who gives the best of his work thoroughly and honestly, that man is perfectly certain to come to the front, and it is a great satisfaction to

me in leaving Hongkong to know that I have left some good men among you whose names will be well known to the world in the future. Once more, gentlemen, I thank you most heartily for your address and I wish you all prosperity in the future. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated and the company were afterwards served with refreshments.

His Excellency shook hands with all those present and bade them good-bye.

Much admiration was expressed for the black-wood case which enclosed the address. It was a characteristic piece of Chinese carving with the dragon dominant.

The address was on vellum; the inscription on the front cover was as follows:—Presented to His Excellency, Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G., by the Civil Servants of Hongkong on his departure for Ceylon, November, 1903.

#### HONGKONG'S FAREWELL.

After five years of administration of the government of Hongkong, His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., departed on the 21st inst. to take up the Governorship of Ceylon. The farewell greeting that he got from the community of the Colony was such as to leave a lasting memory in His Excellency's mind of the feelings of respect and affection with which he is regarded by the people of this Colony. Unfortunately the weather was not auspicious, for it rained steadily all day long and the streets were ankle-deep in mud. Sir Henry was accompanied by Lady Blake and Sir John Keane, A.D.C. The party left Government House shortly after eleven o'clock, in chairs, and proceeded to the City Hall where a large assembly of the citizens had met to present His Excellency with a farewell address. Afterwards they proceeded to Blake Pier and went by launch out to the P. & O. s.s. *Malta* by which they are to journey to Ceylon.

#### ADDRESS AT THE CITY HALL.

For the occasion St. Andrew's Hall had been decorated with palm, ferns and flowers under the superintendence of Mr. W. J. Tutecher of the Botanical and Afforestation Department. A raised platform was placed at the upper end. The Governor's party rode from Government House to the hall by way of Albert Road past the Government offices into and down Garden Road and across Queen's Road. The route was lined by the Indian soldiers of the 110th Mahrattas and 93rd Burmas. On arrival at the hall His Excellency, accompanied by Lady Blake and Sir John Keane, took up his central position on the dais, the assembly standing up meanwhile. When seats had been resumed His Honour the Chief Justice Sir William Goodman, wearing his robes, entered by the side door, accompanied by the unofficial members of the Legislative Council and the committee of the Chamber of Commerce as follows:—Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Wei Yuk, Messrs. E. A. Hewett, D. R. Law, N. A. Siebs, A. G. Wood, J. R. M. Smith, and R. C. Wilcox. Among others present in the hall were the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.), Hon. L. A. M. Johnston (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Sir H. S. Berkeley (Attorney-General), Hon. W. Chatham (Director of Public Works), Hon. Basil Taylor (Harbour Master), Hon. A. W. Brewin, (Registrar-General), His Honour the Puisne Judge (Mr. A. G. Wise), Dr. J. M. Atkinson, (P.C.M.O.) Colonel L. F. Brown (Commanding the Troops) Colonel Birdwood, Colonel Wylly, Major Dopping Hepenstall, Messrs. C. A. Tomes, H. W. Looker, H. P. Tooker, G. C. C. Master, M. S. Northcote, H. N. Mody, A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal; T. Liebert, Consul for France; E. Hamman, Consul for Belgium; L. Volpicelli, Consul-General for Italy; E. Muelle, Consul for Peru; C. Clementi, H. W. Slade, E. H. Sharp, K.C., B. Layton, J. Hastings, H. J. Gedge, R. F. Johnston, Major Radcliff, M. W. Slade, P. W. Sergeant, B. James, D. Story Bishop Piazzoli, Rev. Father Beaubelat, Procureur des Missions Etrangères; Rev. Fathers Spada, de Maria and Gabardi, Messrs. Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Ho Kom Tong, Chau Siu Ki, Yong Won Chung, Leung Piu Chi, Tseung Shi Kai, Wong Kom Fuk, Lo Koon Ting, Fung Wa Chun, Lo Cheung Shiu, Lam Chi Fung, Chun Lam Hung, Wei On and Lau Chu Pak and a good proportion of ladies.

As the deputation entered the hall the whole assembly rose to their feet.

Sir WILLIAM GOODMAN then addressed His Excellency as follows:—Your Excellency,—We have met here this morning to present to your Excellency an address from the people of this Colony expressing, now that you are about to leave us, their appreciation of your work here as Governor and their hearty good wishes for your success and well-being in the future. I feel it a great honour to have been specially asked to act on this occasion for those who have signed that address, representing, as they do, not only the British residents but also the various nationalities which go to make up the general community of Hongkong; and in their name, I will now ask your Excellency's permission to read that address and then to add a few words of my own.

Sir WILLIAM then read the following address:—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, G.C.M.G., GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE COLONY OF HONGKONG AND ITS DEPENDENCIES AND VICE-ADMIRAL OF THE SAME.

Your Excellency,—We the undersigned residents of Hongkong, on the eve of your departure to take up the important post His Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer upon you, desire to express our appreciation of the valuable services rendered to this Colony during your Excellency's term of office here.

The administration of a Crown Colony at a distance of more than ten thousand miles from the mother country cannot, even in ordinary times, prove an easy task. We realise that the difficulties attendant upon a peaceful and successful government of this Colony were increased during the earlier period of your Excellency's tenure of office by the disastrous outbreak in the neighbouring Empire, and we are glad to think that at this critical period the government of the Colony was in your able hands.

It is impossible in the brief space afforded us by an address to go into detail as to the various phases of your Excellency's administration, but we would specially refer to a few of the more important.

During your term of office the boundaries of the Colony have been extended from 27 square miles to 400 square miles, an increase which naturally adds largely to the work of administration, and we rejoice to feel that the disturbances and resistance met with in taking over the New Territory were promptly and decisively overcome, and that the population have since maintained a peaceful and contented attitude, indicating the satisfaction they feel with the system of Government it has fallen upon your Excellency to introduce and administer for the last five years.

The projects for the erection of various urgently needed public buildings, notably the new Post Office, have been accelerated through your Excellency's personal endeavours.

Among other questions which have engaged your Excellency's attention has been the extending of the road-system of the Colony, and in particular the opening-up of the New Territory by the construction of the main Tai-po Road.

The proposed Praya East Reclamation Scheme, the immense importance of which your Excellency was prompt to recognise, and strongly advocated, has up to the present been found impossible of execution owing to difficulties with certain of the authorities in England, but we trust that your efforts to secure this desired expansion of the city will ultimately be crowned with success.

The burning question of the site for the Naval Dock Yard has been dealt with so recently that it is unnecessary here to go into details, but the protest made by the Colony against the Admiralty scheme was warmly supported by your Excellency, who fully recognised the injury it would entail upon the City of Victoria. In this connection we can assure you that the earnest endeavours made by your Excellency to induce the Naval Authorities to reconsider their adverse decision, and thus secure for the city an unbroken sea-front and its legitimate expansion will be gratefully remembered.



The last and most important act of your Excellency's administration in this Colony has been the founding of the Hongkong Improvement Trust, which we are convinced will have far reaching effects and will confer upon the Colony incalculable benefits which will last so long as Hongkong continues to be a centre for trade in the Far East.

It is, however, when we consider the health of the Colony, on which our prosperity so vitally depends, that the debt of gratitude which we owe to your Excellency becomes most manifest.

The all-important question of the Colony's water-supply has occupied much of your attention, particularly the most necessary works which you have inaugurated at Kowloon and Tsimshui, and we hope that under the rider-main system now being adopted, an effective check upon the waste of water will result.

We would specially refer to your Excellency's devotion in dealing with the grave question of the periodical outbreaks of bubonic plague in the Colony, which have for so many years hampered our trade and checked our progress.

The self-imposed task carried out by your Excellency last summer in dealing with the plague in sectional blocks and your efforts to promote habits of personal cleanliness among the poorer classes of the Chinese would alone suffice to render the Colony your lasting debtor.

We are further indebted to your Excellency for your constant support of the efforts made to secure the effective opening of the West River, and for the privilege accorded of an additional number of ports of call, resulting in a large increase to the traffic and a corresponding advantage to the trade of Hongkong.

The warm interest exhibited by your Excellency in the important subject of education has been much appreciated in view of the increase in the juvenile population, for whom provision has had to be made in order that they may be thoroughly equipped for the battle of life, which here, as elsewhere, grows yearly more strenuous.

The encouragement which you have given to all healthy out-door sports and pastimes, in so many of which you actively participate, has been most valuable as an example of the benefit to be derived from physical exercise and recreation in an enervating climate.

In taking leave of your Excellency it is satisfactory to know that, when you leave these shores, your ripe experience will still be utilised in the service of the Empire, and we cordially wish you all success in your new sphere of labour. We also trust that, when the time arrives for you to lay down the cares and burdens of the public service, both your Excellency and Lady Blake will long enjoy in your native land the leisured ease you have so well earned, and that good health and happiness will always attend you.

We have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your Excellency's Obedient Humble servants.  
[Here follow signatures.]

Sir WILLIAM GOODMAN continued.—It was think, in 1886 on my homeward voyage from another colony where I was Chief Justice, that I first had the honour of meeting your Excellency and Lady Blake at Nassau, when you were Governor of the Bahamas. I recollect how much I appreciated the kindly hospitality I, a passing stranger, experienced on that occasion from you both, at Government House. How little did I then imagine that, seventeen years later, I should, as Chief Justice of Hongkong, have the pleasure of reading an address to your Excellency on your departure from this Far Eastern colony. But it is the unexpected which so often happens; and now, after four most successful terms of office as Governor of four different Colonies, your Excellency is about, as Governor of Ceylon, to enter upon another episode in your varied and brilliant career. In a few short hours, you will have left our shores. Our rocky island—with its ever-increasing swarm of thrifty and industrious workers, its noble edifices, as well as its crowded tenements, its open-handed, large-hearted,

far-seeing, and enterprising mercantile community, its garrison, its forts, its ships, its band of Civil servants—all will have sunk beneath the horizon. The present will have become the past, and the five years of your administration of the Colony will be to you a matter of recollection only. The years and months pass rapidly but, as the Roman epigrammatic poet wrote, nineteen hundred years ago, "*Pereunt et imputantur.*" They are placed to our account, and I venture to think that, in the retrospect, your Excellency will have abundant cause for satisfaction in the work that has been accomplished during your period of office here. A former Governor of this Colony, in replying to an address, once said, "The only reward a Governor can look to is the approbation of his Sovereign, the confidence of the colonists, and the success of those measures which he has put forward in the belief that they will be beneficial to the welfare and stability of the Colony in which his lot has been cast." The important appointment which His Majesty has conferred upon you shows that you have gained the Royal approbation. The address which I have read demonstrates the feeling of the Colonists towards you; and a consideration of even the Ordinances and Orders in Council for the last five years cannot fail to impress any impartial person who, like myself, is familiar with their result, with the conclusion that on the whole they have been most beneficial and useful. In whatever direction we look we see signs of progress and improvement. If we look towards the harbour, we see the near completion of that splendid work the Praya Reclamation, and if we look further northward, across the harbour, we see a vast increase of territory rescued from comparative lawlessness, pierced by an excellent road, efficiently policed, and destined in the future to form no unimportant portion of this growing and energetic Colony. If we look southward toward the Hill district, we find not only new roads, new and handsome houses, but new hospitals, completed or being built, in which I trust, much suffering will be relieved, and many convalescents will be restored to health and strength. If we look towards the east, we will find a foreshore and land now covered by the sea, but hereafter destined, when the grand Eastern Reclamation Scheme, of which your Excellency has approved, is carried out, to form no insignificant portion of the improved City of Victoria. If we look towards the west, we find hundreds of commodious new buildings and that excellently graded Jubilee Road, which is now completed to Aberdeen, and which I trust will some day be carried round the Island. And if we look at the city itself, we see handsome edifices springing up all around, some of the finest within a stone's throw of the Hall in which we are now meeting, we see electric tram-lines being laid from one end of the city to the other, and we find law and order, as much as it does in a European city, reigning amongst an industrious and prosperous community. Now, these are simple facts which cannot be gainsaid. The signs of material progress are all around us, and, considering the geographical position of this Colony and the constant changes in its population, I venture to say its social and moral progress has been of a most hopeful character during the term of your Excellency's administration. But I will not longer detain you. I will only, in the name of those who signed the address, wish your Excellency a hearty farewell, a pleasant voyage, and happiness and prosperity in your future career. (Loud applause.)

When the applause had subsided,

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Sir William Goodman, ladies, and gentlemen,—I thank you, and through you the community who have signed this beautiful album, for your expression of goodwill—a feeling that is, I assure you, warmly reciprocated by Lady Blake and myself. You are kind enough to recapitulate certain incidents that have occurred during my administration, and your friendship attributes to me a larger share in the inception and carrying out of those projects than is always my due. The material progress of this great port is secured by the collective capacity and energy of the community, and no one realises more fully than I that in such progress I have been the fly upon the wheel. But it is a happiness to me to know that the

wheel has been going round merrily, that no sand has been allowed to get into the bearings, and that, notwithstanding the present universal depression that will I hope soon pass away, Hongkong is as sound and insistent in abounding energy and ever-increasing prosperity as when I came among you. (Applause). I have, according to my lights, taken the share of the work that fell to my lot, and I accept with gratification your assurance that I have done it to your satisfaction (Applause). But one thing I confess that I shall always look back with the keenest pleasure. I have secured, with the entire concurrence of the Chinese authorities of Canton, that never again shall any man surrendered from under the folds of the British flag be subjected to the harrowing tortures that are still so prevalent in Chinese judicial proceedings. (Applause). I experienced difficulties in having my views placed before the then Viceroy, but it is due to him to say that when they were presented to him he acquiesced with a readiness that did him honour. And in considering the custom that seems to us so inhumanly cruel and so fraught with injustice, we ought not to forget that hardly a century has passed since cruelties as terrible were possible under our own laws, until at length our eyes were opened to the injustice and uselessness of the barbarous practices. (Applause). I wish that I could accept the assumption that the Improvement Trust has actually been founded. The scheme has gone home for the consideration of the Secretary of State, with my strong advice that it shall be adopted. (Applause). But great as is the importance of the structural improvement of Hongkong, there is a matter of greater and more pressing moment that I wish to bring forcibly before you in these last moments before I leave your shores. That is the pressing necessity of utilising the British concession that has been granted for a railway from Canton to the borders of our territory. (Applause). That concession has been granted to a British syndicate, and it is their duty to utilise it and supply the natural seaport terminus to the great arterial line in Hankow, lest possible developments be sought inimical to the interests of Hongkong (hear, hear). We have not built up our Empire by being laggards in the race for developments necessary for the expansion of the trade of the world, and letting "I dare not" wait upon "I will" has never conquered a position nor retained it for either men or nations. And now, ladies and gentlemen, I will touch upon a statement that has been reiterated many times during the term of my administration. That is that I am too pro-Chinese in my views. Well, I hardly know how to answer this. If it means that I have favoured the Chinese members of the community at the expense of the Europeans I deny it most strenuously, (applause), and this beautiful address in which Chinese and non-Chinese have joined, supports my denial. What is the duty of the British Government, and what is the duty of His Majesty's representative in Crown Colonies whose prosperity depends upon the common action of the best men among its population? Not to destroy social distinctions, nor to decrease the respect and consideration that ought to be the reward of the educated, the upright, the honest and successful man of every race, but to give equal protection to all, and to bring home the feeling that under the British flag, justice is pure and unpurchasable, and every man through all the grades, from the highest to the poorest coolie whom we meet with dull eye and patient industry toiling up from the sea to the Peak with his loads of sand or bricks, is free to think what he likes, to speak what he thinks without let or hindrance so long as he obeys the laws that have been made for securing the protection and comfort of the whole community. (Applause). This is the estimate that I have formed of my duty, and I have endeavoured to carry it out with a keen and abiding sense of my responsibility to my King, to this community, and to my own conscience. (Applause). And now that I am about to hand over the reins of government to my friend the Colonial Secretary, for whose industry, ability, and honesty of purpose I would gladly vouch were it necessary in a community to whom he is so long and so intimately known. (Applause). I and my wife bid you good-bye with heartfelt wishes for your happiness and prosperity individually and collectively, and our earnest



prayer that the dark cloud of plague that has hung over the Colony for ten long years may be dissipated by the efforts of the devoted workers engaged in combating its ravages, and that the great port of Hongkong may once more become as healthy as it is beautiful. Good-bye! (Loud applause.) I will only add, ladies and gentlemen, that I wish I had seen the sun on the last day of my stay in Hongkong as Governor, but the sorrow and regret with which we leave it on so wet a day has its solace, and that is, that my friend, Mr. May, will enter upon his administration under the beneficent influence of a rainy day which will improve the vegetation, and I hope, replenish the reservoirs and providently save this Colony from the dangers, the difficulties and the troubles of a water famine like last year. (Loud and continued applause.)

#### THE DISTRICT WATCHMEN.

The company then dispersed, and proceeding to the entrance of the City Hall, H.E. addressed a body of the District Watchmen, some 80 strong, his remarks being interpreted in Chinese by Mr. Ho Fook.

HIS EXCELLENCY said—District Watchmen, I determined to say a word of commendation to you before I left the Colony. I think it most creditable to the Chinese community of the Colony that, outside the regular police force they have, by voluntary contributions, raised a special force of district watchmen for the purpose of assisting in the work of the police. I hear that you are over 80 strong at the present moment, and from the Registrar-General, who is one of the committee, I learn most excellent accounts of the manner in which you have done your work. Some of you have been highly commended, and during the past year several have received rewards. It is an useful thing to have a body of men like you, and probably, in the course of time, some of you will be ready to go on from this District Watchmen Force into the regular Chinese police force of the Colony. I am very glad to have the opportunity of seeing you here to-day and saying "good-bye" to you. One last word. If you continue to do your duty faithfully you may be always sure of that consideration and respect from your Chinese friends in the Colony and from the European residents that make life very pleasant to every man. I now say "good-bye" to you, and I hope that, in the future, you will continue to be worthy of the high commendation that I have heard of you from the gentlemen of the committee and from the Registrar-General to-day.

#### THE EMBARKATION.

From the City Hall His Excellency, Lady Blake and Sir John Keane proceeded, in chairs under an escort of eight Indian constables in charge of Sergeant Abley, to Blake Pier, where a guard of honour of the Sherwood Foresters was drawn up and the band of the same regiment. Thousands of people flocked to the vicinity of the Pier to bid farewell to the Governor, and the Pier itself was crowded by very many prominent people in the Colony. The Governor's party, including Hon. F. H. May and Mrs. May, then boarded the launch *Victoria* (which flew the Hongkong flag and the Blue Ensign), and the farewell words having been spoken, they set off for the *Malta* amid rousing cheers from the crowd, the boom of cannon from the *Tamar*, the noise of numberless crackers (the figure was stated to be ten millions!) let off on shore and on the craft in the Harbour, and the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" from the band. About a score of launches accompanied the Governor to the *Malta*. Upon landing at the gangway the party were received by Captain Daniel, the commander. Many hundreds came aboard to shake hands for the last time with Sir Henry, and it was not until the last minute that the visitors took their leave. As the launches sailed away they each circled round the liner and the passengers gave cheers for Sir Henry and Lady Blake, who stood upon the hurricane-deck. As the *Malta* started on her journey another salute was fired from the *Tamar*.

#### THE NEW GOVERNOR.

In the afternoon, at half-past two, the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, was sworn in as Officer Administering the Government by His Honour the Chief Justice, Sir

William M. Goodman, at a meeting of the Legislative Council. The members present were Hon. Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E. (Officer Commanding the Garrison), Hon. A. M. Thomson (Acting Colonial Secretary), Hon. Sir Henry Spencer Berkeley (Attorney-General), Hon. L. A. M. Johnston (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Basil Taylor, R.N. (Harbour Master), Hon. W. Chatham (Director of Public Works), Hon. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer), Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Hon. Wei Ynk, Hon. Gershom Stewart, and Mr. R. F. Johnston (Acting Clerk of Councils).

Hon. F. H. May was attended by Capt. Hurly, Acting A.D.C. On reaching the head of the table the Chief Justice rose and administered the formal oaths of office: the oath of allegiance was taken first, then the oath of office, and the judicial oath. Immediately the ceremony inside was concluded, the guard of honour from the Sherwood Foresters presented arms, and the National Anthem was played by the band outside. The Chief Justice congratulated His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government on his accession to office and as the members of the Council and others present left the room they shook hands with His Excellency and Mrs. May.

His Excellency and Mrs. May afterwards proceeded in the Governor's chairs to Government House.

#### THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONGKONG.

In a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* on Saturday there was published a Dormant Commission, dated the 14th October, appointing "the Colonial Secretary for the time being of the Colony of Hongkong, or the Senior Military Officer for the time being in command of His Majesty's regular forces in the Colony," to administer the Colony. By virtue of this the Colonial Secretary administers the Government, while, should the office of Colonial Secretary be also vacant, or should the Colonial Secretary be "incapable or absent," the duty of administration falls on the Senior Military Officer.

It is further notified that H.E. Sir Henry Arthur Blake having left the Colony, the oaths of office have been administered to the Hon. F. H. May, and that His Excellency thereupon assumed the administration of the Government.

Lastly it is notified that the Hon. A. M. Thomson has been appointed Colonial Secretary until further notice; and Capt. M. R. Hurly, 93rd Burma Infantry, A.D.C. to H.E. the Officer Administering the Government.

#### THE NORTHERN CRISIS.

[FROM OUR PORT ARTHUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Port Arthur, 8th November.

#### A PEACEFUL OUTLOOK.

Things have quieted down very much here, and I am glad to say that a peaceful issue of the Manchurian complication may now be expected. There is not much activity in naval and military circles, and various steps that have been taken of late by the authorities seem to indicate that, in their opinion, peace is assured. But I suppose one cannot say "all's well" until the Japanese are of the same way of thinking. The Port Arthur paper of Sunday last contained the following leading article on this subject. As will be seen, the writer begins by expressing his surprise that Admiral Alexieff has been taken for a jingo, and goes on to say that he is no such thing, that he is the representative of the Tsar, which is the same thing as saying that he is in favour of peace. He points out that the Viceroy is not, any the more, a man of the peace-at-any-price sort. If war is necessary he will not shrink from it, but will embark on it with vigour and resolution. Russia is then represented as being in favour of the opening of Manchuria to foreign trade, so long as her own interests are safeguarded, and as not objecting in the least to Japanese emigration to the peninsula of Corea, so long as the independence of Corea is not menaced. Reading between the lines, and relying on other sources of information, I believe that the idea is to interfere with Japanese operations in Corea as

little as possible, and to satisfy the demands of foreign trade in Manchuria as much as possible, though not, I am afraid, to such an extent as the average foreign trader wishes. Meanwhile a tight hold will be kept on Manchuria; in fact I cannot believe that the Russians will ever relax their grip on the three provinces in the way some Japanese and English publicists imagine. They believe, rightly or wrongly, that if they allow the practical sovereignty of Manchuria, which they now possess to pass out of their grasp, Port Arthur and Dalny will remain on their hands dry and withered memorials of blasted hopes, like trees whose roots have been cut away. They believe that the Manchurian railway will lose half its *raison d'être* and more than half its prosperity. They believe that the restless activity, commercial and political, of the Englishman and the Japanese, combined with the astounding business genius of the American will make of Manchuria a busy hive of industry in which the English tongue will be the *lingua franca* and in which the infrequent Russian trader will be stared at as an unknown and mysterious visitant, while the Russian troops will be left perched high and dry on the bleak rocks of Liaotang like S. Simon on his pillar, with nobody caring in the least whether they stay there or come down. Such is the fate with which the Russians believe they would be threatened by the flooding of Manchuria with traders other than their own, and sooner than submit to such a fate and be laughed at for centuries hence by the Chinese and the world generally for their enormous and unremunerative outlay in Manchuria, and especially at Dalny and Port Arthur, they would, I believe, be prepared to see extreme measures taken for their eviction.

I need not point out, however, that the Russians are mistaken if they imagine that any foreign nation wishes to see them deprived of the fruit of their vast labours in Manchuria or that a *via media* may not be found. There is also another side to the picture they draw of the irresistible Anglo-Saxon advance, and that is the irresistible Muscovite advance; but this side of the question has often been presented in your columns by abler pens than mine.

#### THE "NOVI KRAI" ADVOCATES PEACE.

The redoubtable *Novi Krai* has, then, come forward with the olive branch in its hand and asks in a gentle voice, expressive of pained surprise, what all that noise is about, why those rude, warlike clamours? That is the latest development. The Port Arthur journal begins its leading article on the Manchurian question with a quotation from the *Chuo Shimbun* to the following effect:—"The Emperor of Russia has now organised in the Far East a special form of government, calculated to develop Russian business and commercial interests. In our opinion this step dissipates the phantom of war and contributes to the maintenance of peace."

The *Novi Krai* continues as follows:—"This esteemed organ of the Japanese Press is undoubtedly right, and it is a great consolation to us to be able to cite its testimony on this subject in view of the fact that the Japanese Press seems to be generally convinced that the Viceroy of the Far East belongs to the War party in Russia and that his appointment to his present position means the triumph of that party. This opinion is of course, absurd. As the *Novoe Vremya* recently pointed out when dealing with the establishment of the Viceroyalty, the Viceroy of the Far East is carrying out a plan previously drawn up by the Russian Tsar, and care for the preservation of peace is the principal problem of his viceroyalty."

#### ALEXIEFF A FRIEND OF PEACE.

"It must not be forgotten, on the other hand, that there cannot be the least doubt that the choice of his Majesty, at such a difficult moment in the political life of the Russian Far East, has fallen on a man who has shown in his past career as a ruler of distant possessions of Russia, that he possesses a firm, well-defined grasp of the rôle which Russia has to play here, and the ability of keeping his Majesty constantly informed of the condition of things out here. There is in this idea of the nature of the Viceroyalty a great difference to what the *Novoe Vremya* says further, but we agree with that paper when it remarks that the important question is 'in whose hands will be the immediate control of Russia's policy on the shores of the Pacific?' The clear



result of the policy—that is, of the policy of having some strong personality to whom the direction of Russia's policy out here can be entrusted—is seen in the fact that we have now got a permanent policy in the Far East. That policy has also given birth to that now celebrated question, the evacuation of Manchuria; and the Japanese are right, a thousand times right, when they recognise in Adjutant-General Alexieff a man who has a great influence on our policy here, not because of course that he belongs to the war party, but because that he, in virtue of the power given to him, knows when it is possible, so long as he does not compromise the dignity and the prestige of Russia and of her Imperial ruler, to make concessions for the sake of peace to the interests of other Powers. We have now reached a moment when all the Powers, and particularly ourselves and the Japanese, pay great attention to their interests in this part of the world. Seasonable and just concessions will doubtless dissipate the phantom of war. Although not much light is thrown by the Press on the Russo-Japanese negotiations, there is no doubt that the situation is now easier. Russia will not surrender her interests in Manchuria, but she will not hinder the development of the business and commercial interests of other Powers at the moment when the negotiations of the Russians with the Chinese have been brought to a conclusion.

## JAPAN.

The *Eastern World* of Yokohama has an article on the subject of Japanese emigration to Corea, in which it shows that Corea is not necessary at all as a field for Japanese emigrants, a large part of arable land in Japan itself still remaining uncultivated. However that may be, Russia will not hinder Japanese emigration to Corea, but Russia cannot, on the other hand, allow Japan to place obstacles in the way of Russian trade in Corea or anywhere else. The *Nobosti* and the Siberian *Viedomosti* speak in a similar strain. The relations of the other Powers in the Far East will also be more clearly defined. The mask has fallen. The fact that the United States is acting with Japan is clear. Germany is trying to make trouble between Russia and England. England maintains a correct neutrality and warns Japan to keep out of trouble, and the English Press, as represented by that able journal, the *Spectator*, says that an alliance between England and Russia is desirable. The cards are seen. The play will now be easier.

Port Arthur, 11th November.

## THE "NOVOE VREMYA'S" VIEW.

The *Novoe Vremya* of the 21st October has the following article on the present Russo-Japanese crisis:—

"The Russian newspapers of the Far East and the European Press published in the same quarter say that a period of calm has made its appearance in Russo-Japanese relations and that a serious conflict between the two Powers is now out of the question, though at one time it seemed possible enough. We are very glad to hear such good news; nevertheless the important question of the preservation of peace cannot be lightly disposed of, and we cannot therefore unfortunately receive as gospel the cheerful information in question. The Press of the Far East tells us to-day that there will be no war; yesterday it told us that war was unavoidable; to-morrow perhaps it will again assure us that we must inevitably come into collision with Japan. But on what foundation are all these rumours—past, present and future—based? Evidently on the prevalent tone of the Japanese newspapers. These papers began by crying out that it was necessary to make war on us, and everybody began to talk about the crisis; after a while these cries decreased and everybody began to feel comfortable and to affirm that the danger of war was minimised.

## THE JAPANESE PRESS INACCURATE.

"To attach such importance to the Japanese Press would not be extraordinary if that Press were always a model of accuracy and famous for its faithful expression of the views of its Government. But it cannot be said that the Press of any country is a faithful exponent of the views of its Government. It certainly cannot be said of the Japanese Press, which

is to a large extent subsidised by the English and the Americans. Japanese papers are sometimes in fact edited directly by representatives of these nationalities. On this account there is no need to be alarmed to any particular extent by the furious outbursts of the Japanese Press, or to be lulled into security by its optimistic predictions. One must estimate for himself how matters stand in the Far East, especially when there is anything serious the matter there, and must not allow himself to be influenced by the tone of the Japanese newspapers.

## RELATIONS STRAINED.

"It would be mere affectation on our part to deny that our relations with Japan are rather strained at present. They have been strained for some time past although there was no aggressive action on our side which might be regarded as having brought about this estrangement. At all events Japan pushed on the warlike preparations of her fleet which she sent to manoeuvre in the Straits of Corea, and which was also stationed in a line from the island of Kargodo to the islands of Tsushima and Kiusiu. Soldiers were placed on board her transports and brought to Masampo. This was done by way of transport exercises of course. The men were not landed but returned to the island of Tsushima.

"We just mention this little fact to give the reader an idea of the acts which are accountable for the present crisis in the Far East. There is a wide interval of course between such acts and an actual collision. A demonstration carried out by a fleet is a comparatively cheap performance, as Powers which possess a strong fleet are not averse to showing it off, especially if by doing so they think they can bring pressure to bear on a neighbour.

## NO EFFECT ON RUSSIA.

"But this demonstration will have no effect on Russia, i.e. it will not make us too yielding in our relations with the Japanese. The object we have in view in the Far East is the development and prosperity of our frontiers, and to abandon this object, that is, otherwise speaking, to abandon all measures for the lawful defence of our interests we do not desire to do and we cannot do. We do not know if the Japanese are aware of this, but at all events the warlike preparations of Japan do not decrease; on the contrary they are being carried on with redoubled energy. This is a more important fact, in our opinion, than the change in the tone of the Japanese Press. The Press may write in a peaceful strain, but, meanwhile, the Japanese Government has given orders for all its military officers at present travelling or studying in foreign countries to return at once to the Fatherland. The firm of Krupp of Essen has just received from the Japanese Government a telegram asking them to make haste to fulfil certain orders previously placed with them. Coal for the use of the fleet is also being bought in enormous quantities, and a great stock has now been accumulated. In the Japanese arsenals work ceases neither day nor night. Many transport vessels have already been chartered and the Government is putting forth all its efforts to charter as many as possible. All these symptoms, and also the brisk exchange of views between Tokyo, Washington, and London force us to be cautious, and to place little trust in the peaceful tone of the Japanese Press. We do not want, however, to say that the danger to the maintenance of peace in the Far East is very great. The peaceful tendency of Russia's policy cannot surely lead to a crisis. We only ask, however, for the exercise of caution and a due and critical estimate of the condition of affairs in the Far East.

"Our negotiations with Japan still continue, and it is to be hoped that both parties will finally arrive at an understanding which will safeguard the interests of Russia and assure to Japan the peace which is indispensable for her welfare."

## THE OPENING OF MOUKDEN.

In spite of the optimistic tone of the Russian Press, it seems, from the tone of that Press and from what individual Russians say on the subject, that, whatever concessions Japan gets, there are two that she certainly will not get. One of these is the evacuation of Manchuria, the other is the opening of Moukden or any part of the three provinces. Anything else in reason Russia will gracefully concede. She will bestow an

unctuous benediction on the efforts of the Japanese to colonise Formosa; she will approve, within certain limits, and with certain reservations and guarantees, of their emigration to Corea; but when asked to open up Manchuria she smiles the half-amused, half-pitying smile of the man whom a spoilt child asks for the moon.

The Port Arthur journal of this morning says:—"The spreading of sensational reports obliges us, in order to refute them, to explain the true circumstances attending the occupation of Moukden by the Russians. The fact is that only two companies of our troops were sent there in order to bring about the re-establishment of order. The Tartar General was not arrested on the occasion and no repressive measures were taken towards the Chinese authorities administering the Government of the town."

## PRINCE ADALBERT IN HONGKONG.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd s.s. *König Albert* arrived on Thursday morning with Prince Adalbert of Germany on board. She went alongside at Kowloon between nine and ten o'clock. Both the *König Albert* and the *Hamburg*, the homeward-bound German Mail, were gaily decked with bunting in honour of H.F.H. The bands of both steamers were playing the national anthem of Germany when the *König Albert* made fast to the wharf. As the Prince's arrival was private a guard of honour was not sent to meet him. Warships in harbour did not dress ship for the same reason; no salutes were fired. A large number of persons met the steamer. Prominent amongst them was Captain M. R. Hurly, A.D.C. to H.E. F. H. May, Officer Administering the Government. There were also the German Consul and the Agent for the Norddeutscher Lloyd Co. Captain M. R. Hurly steamed over from Hongkong Island in the Government launch *Victoria*. He invited the Prince to take tiffin at Government House. H.R.H. accepted the invitation, subsequently leaving Kowloon in the German Consul's launch. He was accompanied by Captain Ba on Schimmelmun, his A.D.C. On arriving at this side of the harbour, the Prince was conveyed in the German Consul's chair to Government House. He was received by H.E. and Mrs. May. Government House had been decorated by Mr. Tutober of the Botanical and Afforestation Department. Beautiful spray palms from the Botanical Gardens made an effective display of greenery and pretty ferns surrounded them. Gorgeous red poinsettias in full bloom were prominent among the flowers. In addition to H.E. and Mrs. May Prince Adalbert, Captain Hurly, and Captain Baron Schimmelmun, at tiffin were Sir William Meigh and Lady Goodman, Commodore and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Siebs, Sir Paul Chater, Mr. and Mrs. Goetz, Colonel Brown, Captain Wyndham, Captain Lieutenant Paschen, H.I.G.M.S., Dr. Gumprecht, Mr. Michelau, Mr. Figge, Mr. Bremner, and Mr. Johnston (private secretary to H.E.). The party took their seats at 1 p.m. No speeches were made excepting that H.E. toasted King Edward and the German Emperor. About half an hour after lunch the Prince took his leave as he said he would like to have a look at the shops. The *König Albert* left for Shanghai next morning. The Admiral of the German China Squadron was on board of her. He did not, however, visit Government House. Prince Adalbert, son of Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany, is on his way to Shanghai to join the *Hertha* on which he is to serve two years on the China Station. He is the second son of the Kaiser. He is 19 years of age and extremely youthful as well as good looking in appearance. On enquiry our representative was informed that the *König Albert* had a fine passage out and that the Prince thoroughly enjoyed the journey.

The German steamer *Prinzess Marie* from Antwerp, bound for Dalny, arrived at Colombo on the 13th inst. She is bringing out the river gunboat *Tringtau* for the German Navy in China. The gunboat, which was built at Elbing, is packed in sections.



## KING'S PARK, KOWLOON.

### A WAR DEPARTMENT OBSTRUCTION.

The laying out of King's Park, Kowloon, is "hanging fire" on account of the War Department stubbornly refusing to accept a fair offer from the Colonial Office. Reasonable compensation for relinquishing certain lands in the vicinity of that little hill overlooking Hunghom Bay has been rejected. At the time King's Park was presented to the Colony—when Major-General Sir William Gascoigne was acting as Governor during the absence of Sir Henry Blake—certain boundaries enclosing some 100 acres were drawn out. No one gave a thought to the War Department raising an objection to handing over, for suitable compensation, apparently waste lands. The boundaries were mapped out as follows:—The range of hills running from the Glassworks, Austin Road and the sea, the Police rifle-range, the rifle-butts. Now, however, it is neither decided what extent the park is to cover, nor what lines are to be its boundaries. One would think the War Department is regarding its own side of the question without considering the Colony. It is unwilling to concede for fair terms a piece of property insignificant from a strategical point of view. The reason why this and other questions are not considered for the best interests of the Colony by the Colonial Office and War Department conjointly is hard to say. If the action of the War Department is persisted in, it will not only greatly depreciate the concession as a park, but it may continue to retard the progress of the laying out for a considerable time.

A new road, connecting Yaumati and Hunghom, is being constructed through the park. A large number of coolies and load carriers had been noticed crossing the fields between Yaumati and Hunghom, so when the park was decided on an artery was deemed necessary. The Public Works Department have the work well in hand, the course being already out. It is being so arranged that the beauty of the park will be interfered with as little as possible. The road will make it practically impossible to close in the park, so, more than probably, the park will be surrounded by a simple boundary. This arrangement will necessitate a staff of keepers to relieve each other on day and night watches. Still, however, the fact of the park being open is unlikely to make extraordinary vigilance necessary; the Botanical Gardens here are only surrounded by an easily surmountable railing, yet the valuable shrubs, etc., are never destroyed or stolen at night time. A large nullah of masonry and concrete is being constructed on the north side of the road. It will replace that malarious stream of stagnant pools so annoying to passers-by in that vicinity. Draining and levelling work is being carried on in various directions. The road itself will be on the level. Its width will be 100 feet; the centre only, however, will be metalled with granite. By this new thoroughfare Hongkong and Hunghom will be brought much nearer each other. It will be finished in a few months.

All kinds of measures are to be taken for the promotion of sport. There will probably be cricket, football, hockey, polo, and tennis grounds. The Bowling Club at present hold a position on the site of the new park. It is hardly possible to turn them out; nobody, anyway, would desire to do so. A bowling green, moreover, would hardly be practicable unless run by a club. An idea favourably received by those interested in the construction of the park is that a bicycle track should be constructed around the football and cricket fields. Such a thing has in many instances been found a great success at home. The question is whether colonists in these parts take great interest in cycling. Cycling races, no doubt, would be an attractive feature at various annual sports. With all these facilities for taking exercise there must certainly be some place provided for the purchase of light refreshments. A good idea would be to erect a pavilion; the right of selling refreshments could be let by tender. Carriage-drives are to be constructed through the prettiest parts of the park. The beauty of the grounds will be greatly promoted by shrubberies and flower beds. What is

to be done about water is hard to say. Water certainly is a very essential thing for gardening purposes. A fountain and pond would greatly add to the effectiveness of the scenery. Then again there are all kinds of objections raised on the grounds of still water breeding mosquitoes. How this question is to be settled it is hard to say. Large tracts of open space will be cleared for the Chinese. No doubt this will have a healthy effect; it will also be greatly appreciated. The rifle butts, now situated on the ground, are to be removed near the vicinity of Kowloon City. Altogether King's Park will be a great boon. Surely, too, it will be an attraction to Hongkongites to move their residences over the water. It would not be safe, though, to even make a wide guess as to when it will be completed.

### LICENSING SESSIONS.

The Justices of the Peace assembled at the Magistracy at 2.15 p.m. yesterday to consider an application for a publican's licence, and three applications for adjunct licences. Mr. J. H. Kemp presided. The Justices present were Captain F. W. Lyons (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Messrs F. Browne, G. T. Veitch, A. Shelton Hooper, D. Clark, R. H. Craig, and C. A. D. Melbourne.

James D. M. Cameron applied for a publican's licence in respect of the "Occidental Hotel," at 39, Elgin Road, Kowloon. Mr. Kemp, saying there were no police objections, and that the names of the householders were acceptable, moved the application be granted, and this was agreed to.

George James Clarke, of the "Connaught House Hotel," Queen's Road Central applied for an adjunct licence. Included in the names of the householders was that of Chan A Fook, of Messrs. Watkins and Co. Mr. Shelton Hooper asked if Messrs. Watkins supplied liquor to the applicant. Both Mr. Clark and Mr. Chan A Fook were absent. Mr. Shelton Hooper said he thought they ought to treat the application in the same way as those at the Annual Sessions of the Justice; it was great disrespect to the Justices to be asked to continue the application when the applicant did not attend. Mr. Clarke then walked in, and, in answer to Mr. Kemp, said that Messrs. Watkins and Company did not supply liquor to the applicants. A proposal that the application be granted was agreed to.

Richard Francis Daly, "Oyster Bar and Restaurant," 51 Des Voeux Road, applied for an adjunct licence. Mr. Kemp read a portion of a letter from Mr. L. Comar, who objected to the licence being granted, saying the increased opposition would injure his business. After considering the matter in private Mr. Daly was called in and told that the Justices had decided to refuse his application. Mr. Daly explained that he had to send to another hotel daily for liquor for his guests; he was money out of pocket by it. He had been manager of the Kowloon Hotel for some three years. It was explained to him that the application for the licence was not refused on account of the character of his house or himself, but on account of the locality; on the ground, in fact, that the house was not necessary.

John Anderson, of the "Happy Valley Retreat Restaurant," withdrew his application for an adjunct licence.

### THE HONGKONG-MANILA RUN.

How there is room for so many steamers on the Hongkong-Manila run is a matter for conjecture. The China & Manila s.s. *Rubi* arrived from Manila on the 24th with two tons of cargo. The Indo China s.s. *Loongsang*, a freighter of no mean dimensions, arrived the same day with thirty tons only. The China and Manila s.s. *Perla* arrived from Iloilo in ballast a few days ago. Nor, indeed, have the *Rosetta Maru*, the *Rohilla Maru* or China Navigation steamers been loaded below their Plimsoll marks. In fact, to sum up the situation in a nutshell, the "ferry" steamers on the Hongkong-Manila run practically travel one way in ballast every voyage. At a recent meeting of a public company the Hon. R. Shewan made a remark about "our allies" taking our trade away. Japanese officers, executive and engineer, are certainly a cheap article. On the other hand the *Rosetta*

*Maru* and *Rohilla Maru*, old P. & O. steamers, simply "eat" coal. This expense must certainly take a big slice out of their earnings. The China Navigation Co., Ltd., were the first to cut passage freight down to a reasonable figure. Thirty-five dollars return (first class), is within the means of many a tripper who would otherwise have to spend his holiday at home. Steamers of that union known as the U. S. Mail lines carry a deal of freight, etc., from Manila to Hongkong. This, of course, has made "a big hole" in the cargo supply of smaller steamers. True, the local steamers get pretty well filled up in Hongkong. If they could only fill up over the water it would mean a drop in the freights at this port. Manila sends us little or nothing except a few cigars. The hemp is, for a great part, exported direct to its destination. The fact of Hongkong being one of the bases for supplying the Philippines with food, moreover, puts up the price of food at Hongkong far beyond what one would imagine.

### HONGKONG NURSING INSTITUTION.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Nursing Institution was held at the City Hall on the 20th inst. Dr. F. O. Stedman presided, and there were also present—Lady Goodman, Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. C. A. Tomes, Mrs. C. W. Dickson, Mrs. H. W. Slade, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. M. W. Slade, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Bateson Wright, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. A. H. Luke, Mrs. Lyons, Dr. Jordan, and Mr. Fraser.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said—Ladies and gentlemen, the report of our last year's work is before you, so that there is no need for me to read it. I am sorry to say that it is not quite so favourable as that which we were able to put before you last year. You will see that although we used our subscriptions for current expenses we are only \$140 to the good. For this there are three chief causes. First, our nurses have not been quite as much engaged as last year, and therefore their earnings have been rather less. I think there were about twenty days at least, and as they earn about \$5 a day that makes us about \$100 short on the year's working. There was a great demand for nurses and in fact there have been times when we could have employed three, perhaps four nurses; but, on the other hand, in a small community like this, there were times when both the nurses were idle. They have their salaries just the same and are a heavier expense to us then, because we have to pay for their board when they are not at someone's house. Therefore, the earnings of the institute are less. Second, the nurses are receiving some increase in salary each year they remain with us, and thirdly, owing to the lowness in exchange, it has cost us considerably more to pay their salaries, seeing that they are paid in sterling. Next year the agreements of the two nurses we have at present terminate, and they have both decided to return to England, so that we have to face the cost of paying half their passages home and also the cost of two outward passages for two nurses to replace them, and to do this we shall have to draw at any rate temporarily on our guarantee fund. We had hoped that we should have been able to reserve our annual subscriptions for this purpose, but as you have seen this last year we have only a surplus of \$140. Our agreement with these two nurses was that, if they stayed five years, they should have their whole passage money home, and if they remained only three years we were only liable to pay half the passage money. We feel very strongly that the subscription should not be increased, because it is not right to expect a comparatively few subscribers to keep the Institution going for the benefit of the Colony, but we do think that many more persons ought to be willing to subscribe to it, since it is for the good of all, and any one may at any time be taken ill and require the services of a trained nurse. Last year there were only 45 subscribers, and I am sure you will agree with me that there must be many more persons who should be interested in trying to keep this Institution in



a solvent condition. We shall, however, have some considerable increase of income during this current year from our invested capital. You will have seen that the Government have made us a grant of \$12,000. During this last year we have only had interest on this for about six months; in future, of course, we shall have the whole year's interest. Further, till now we were only able to get 4% on this money because no suitable investment offered; now however it has been invested in 6% Hongkong Hotel debentures, so that altogether we shall have an increased income of nearly \$180. Still this will not be enough to cover the amount we need for passage money, and I think we each should endeavour to bring in some additional subscribers. With these remarks, I will move the adoption of the report and accounts, but before doing so I shall be pleased to answer any questions which any subscribers may wish to ask.

There were no questions.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mrs. SLADE seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next business before them was the subscriptions for the ensuing year. He had already stated that, in his opinion, they ought not to ask for a larger subscription than \$10 as they ought to be able to get very many more subscribers for the Institution. He proposed that it be \$10, the same as last year.

Mr. FRASER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—There only remains one thing for us to do now, and that is to elect a Committee for the ensuing year. Members of the Committee must be subscribers, of course but our subscriptions for last year have all lapsed and, therefore, I think you may elect almost any lady in the Colony. The Committee has to consist of two doctors, in practice in the Colony, and five ladies.

The new committee elected for the ensuing year was as follows:—Lady Goodman, Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. Tomes, Mrs. H. W. Slade, Mrs. C. W. Dickson, Dr. Stedman and Dr. Jordan.

This was all the business.

The third annual report of this deserving institution states that there has been no change in the nursing staff. Against 257 and 290 days respectively in the previous year, they have been engaged during the last twelve months 265 and 260 days, which indicates the continued appreciation and demand for the services of trained nurses. Including the amount of accrued interest and taking into account debts outstanding and monies due, the working account, after repaying in full the sum borrowed from the guarantee fund, is \$140.75 to the good for the year; but as this result is only arrived at by making use of the subscriptions for current expenses, instead of reserving them against cost of passages for the nursing staff, the committee can hardly regard it as satisfactory. In last year's report it was pointed out that a sum of about \$600 should be annually set aside for passages. The committee do not recommend raising the amount of the subscription as they think that it ought not to be difficult to get a greatly increased number of subscribers—there were only forty-five last year, and there must surely be many more persons in this Colony who who are directly interested in keeping this Institution from gradually eating away its guarantee fund and thus coming to an untimely end.

It is with much satisfaction the committee report having received a grant in aid of \$12,000 from the Government, which is to be held in connection with the guarantee fund for investment purposes only. The sum to the credit of the guarantee fund on the 30th of September, 1903, stood at \$16,377.12, of which \$3,000 was invested in Hongkong Club 6 per cent. debentures, \$13,000 on fixed deposit @ 4 per cent. \$365.89 to credit of current account, and \$11.23 due from accounts outstanding.

The thanks of the Institution are expressed to Lady Goodman, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. W. Fraser, the Hon. Treasurer, and to Mr. Pinckney, who has audited the accounts.

Mrs. Harling, Mrs. Robertson and Dr. Gibson having resigned, their places on the Committee have been filled by Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. Dickson, and Dr. Jordan.

## THE REPORT OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

The following are the chief points in the covering letter to the Colonial Secretary of Mr. E. A. Irving, Hon. Secretary to the Governing Body of Queen's College, and the general recommendation at the end of the report on the College by the Hon. A. M. Thomson, Mr. E. A. Irving, and Mr. S. B. C. Ross:—

It appears to the Governing Body that the teaching at Queen's College should be so organised that a boy who has succeeded in reaching the upper classes ought (with reasonable diligence and ability) to have acquired a fair knowledge of Chinese, a reasonably good knowledge of English, as it is spoken and written and printed, and ought to be able with considerable facility to translate from one language to the other. These attainments will be to him, in after life, of much greater value than a superficial knowledge of algebra and Euclid, for instance, or long lists of tributary rivers, &c., stored away in his memory, till time effaces them. Knowing Chinese and English, the literatures of both countries lie open before him if he pushes his studies, as opportunity offers, after he leaves the College. The Governing Body do not undervalue special subjects, but speak only of relative importance. The Governing Body can well appreciate the difficulty some masters, who do not know very much English themselves, must have in imparting their knowledge of that language to the boys in the lower part of the school. But speaking generally, they agree with the recommendations of the examiners. The question of suitable readers is a difficult one, and the Governing Body is of opinion that it might be referred to the committee now sitting to consider the teaching of English among other subjects taken in connection with the Oxford Local Examinations.

### GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

Colloquial English.—This should be (what it certainly is not at present) the most important instrument for teaching English. From the outset boys should be taught to talk to the master and to each other. That this can be done is beyond dispute. If it were done, we should not find that boys after 3 or 4 years' education in English were unwilling to reply to the most simple questions.

History and Geography.—It is highly desirable that a syllabus should be carefully thought out and laid down, so as to extend throughout the school without variation from year to year.

Mathematics.—This is much the strongest subject, and we recommend that less time be devoted to it and more to the teaching of English, until the deficiencies of that subject are improved.

Reading.—Reading is studied in the Lower Classes as it were under two heads, reading without and reading with, a comprehension of the meaning of what is read. This system is quite indefensible and should be amended.

Chinese.—The teaching of Chinese should be altogether reorganised.

Organisation.—The less competent Chinese masters should be placed under the supervision of English masters.

## NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

A specimen of *Broughtonia lilacina* which is now carrying 8 spikes of bloom may be seen hanging from one of the crossbars in the No. 2 house. The spikes are about 18 inches long with several flowers at the ends. The plant evidently gets its name from the colour of the flowers, which are about 2 inches across. The leaves are in hairs about 6 inches long and an inch broad. This orchid was introduced into England from Jamaica, where it was first discovered, growing on trees, in 1793. It was obtained from that island through the kindness of Lady Blake, to whose interest during the last five years the Public Gardens owe so many novelties.

A large growing creeper, *Bignonia Chamberlaynii*, is now in flower trained on the trellis at the east end of the aviary in the old garden, and another plant may be seen similarly treated on the rosebed terrace. As a rule this plant is a very shy bloomer, but this year

it is an exception, as numerous flowers are open at the present time. The flowers are almost sulphur-yellow in colour, tubular, and about 2½ inches long. They are borne in short racemes in the axils of the leaves. The leaves are once pinnate with leaflets about 4 inches long by 2½ inches broad. The species is a native of Brazil, and has been in cultivation for nearly a century.

The three months during which the occasional closing of the gardens was announced have now come to an end, and both will now be open every day as usual.

The winter-flowering annuals are now coming into flower, and the edgings of sweet alyssum to the large oval beds on the lower terrace in the old garden are now at their best.

The poinsettias are at present a blaze of colour in different parts of the gardens.

As this is the time of year when palms are very much in demand for decorative purposes perhaps it would not be out of place to mention one of the most useful varieties for this kind of work. The plant in question is *Chrysalidocarpus tulescens*, and there are fine specimens of it in the new garden in the palm plot and at Glenealy. There is also a good specimen near the Government Offices. It is a very graceful palm and forms big clumps about 15ft. high when planted in the ground, and plants from 8 to 10ft. high may be grown in pots, as may be seen from the specimens in the No. 3 house. Up to now the method of propagation has depended upon division, but a few seeds were produced this year. These were sown about three months ago, and the seedlings are now two or three inches high. The species is a native of Madagascar and was introduced into England from that island in 1824.

The monkey which was kindly presented to the gardens last week by Mrs. Seth has proved a great attraction to the children, as well as to the Chinese who visit the place.

The rainfall on Friday and Saturday last was very welcome, and did an immense amount of good to vegetation. It amounted to 1.29 inches.

## CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 25th November.

### DISORDER IN KWANGTUNG.

No reports have come in since my last letter from Waichow, but I have learned that in the south-western part of the province there has been an outbreak of disorder, that is to say, something more serious than the chronic variety. A large band of brigands swooped down upon the village of Yin Tak (half-way to Kwanchauwan from Canton). Intelligence of the raid had been received, and most of the inhabitants succeeded in escaping, but all that remained to the number of thirty-eight, were butchered in cold blood; and every house was pillaged. The brigands are less merciful than in the eastern part of the province, where they seem to spare life if possible.

The officials, my informant tells me, take vigorous action after these raids; they cannot apparently prevent them. Up to the present nothing has been heard of the Yin Tak robbers. They probably dispersed with their booty and avoided their pursuers in the manner of the Burman dacoits. At Ko Chow (a few miles further west) the officials acted with great vigour a month or two ago. The place was a hotbed of thieves, and an energetic official determined to make it an example and a warning to its neighbours. He accordingly ordered a body of troops to set fire to a large temple in which the Ko Chow people took great pride. The temple was burnt to the ground, and the local *feng-shui* received a terrible shock. The village headmen, resolved to attack the official through his conscience, since they could do him no bodily harm, assembled a large number of children, and caused them to lament after the noisy Chinese fashion on the ruins of the temple. It may be imagined that the official, if he had any conscientious feelings, would suffer deeply when he heard of the grief of the youngsters deprived of their temple, but official spies soon informed him that the grief was bought with a few hundred cash; and the sword of vengeance descended on the necks of the headmen.



## AT CANTON.

Canton city itself continues to furnish little news. Yeung Ah Pak, said to be a Triad chief, has been condemned to death for supplying arms to a reform society. The mention of arms reminds me that another supply of over 1000 rifles and a million cartridges has lately arrived, together with some fresh regiments from Hupeh. The arsenals seem to be pouring forth continuous supplies, to judge from the number of rifles that have been received here this year.

## FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Fochow, 21st November.

## THE NEW VICEROY.

H.E. Li Hsing Yoi arrived last night at Pagoda Anchorage by s.s. *Hsin Fung* from Canton too late to start for the city, and I understand spent the night at the Fochow Arsenal. He arrived at the jetty near the small bridge en route for the city at 11.30 a.m. this morning in pouring rain. During the last few days thousands of soldiers have been seen everywhere awaiting H.E.'s arrival. He is a man of nearly 80 years of age, and I am told on good authority cannot do any work after 12, noon.

## SPORT.

The shoot at the Gun Club for Captain J. Farrow's prize—a handsome flask—took place in dull weather on Wednesday and ended in a tie between Messrs. G. W. W. Pearson, G. L. Greig, and P. P. Martzinkevitch, the last named eventually winning by 2 points.

## PORT ARTHUR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Port Arthur, 5th November.

## THE RACES.

The races closed on Sunday last. They were held on the Suwarrowsky Parade Ground, a suitable piece of land which lies out beyond Chinatown alongside the railway. The attendance of officials with their wives was large, but the general public did not attend in very large number. There was a totalisator, and the racing was conducted much on English lines, everybody being in gala dress and in his or her best humour. The horses were Baikal horses, which are small and swift, Manchurian ponies, also swift, and Tomsk horses, which are as a rule rather too heavy to make good racers.

## FUNERAL.

The cemetery—to which the insanitary condition of Port Arthur on its first occupation by the Russians sent many tenants—is situated just above the race course, and the races had hardly concluded on Sunday evening when a cortège, composed principally of a detachment of soldiers and a military band, made its appearance. The funeral was that of Captain Moshkoff, an officer of the 9th East Siberian Regiment, who had been killed on the previous day by a fall from his horse. As the officer belonged to the artillery, a cannon was discharged three times in succession over his grave.

## THE NAVAL REVIEW AT TALIWAN.

Not many particulars about the recent naval review at Taliwan have leaked out so far, and it is doubtful if anything of real importance ever does leak out. It cannot be said, however, so far as I am aware, that any special significance attaches to this function which takes place every year with just the same ceremony, unless that this year it took place at Taliwan instead of Dalny. The number of pennants is given at 29. "Part of the squadron," says the report in the *Novi Krai*, "was absent, being on different stations." I suppose this alludes to different vessels that were sent out lately on secret missions.

## THE VICEROY ARRIVES.

On Sunday week the Viceroy left Port Arthur on the *Askold*. The morning after his arrival in Taliwan the review began, but, of course, the newspaper account of it merely refers to the reception of officials by the Viceroy, the handing of reports to the latter by various authorities, and many other matters of detail. The bulk of the fleet was in Taliwan, however, drawn up in three lines and occupying the whole breadth of the spacious harbour.

"We had only succeeded," says the *Novi Krai's* correspondent, "in casting a hurried glance at the ships when a little wreath of smoke suddenly appeared on the side of the flagship and was immediately followed by the report of a cannon. Immediately afterwards all the ships were wrapped in smoke; the salute was being fired. The squadron presented a striking appearance, half covered as it was with smoke which was, however, cleared away in a few moments by the wind. When the last wreaths of smoke had disappeared, our cruiser" (from which I conclude that this report in the Port Arthur paper was written by an officer in the suite of Admiral Alexieff) "answered. We then proceeded, steaming slowly, between the lines of ships until at 3 p.m. we anchored in a central position. Immediately after we had anchored, a steam-cutter pushed off from the side of the flagship, the *Petrovsk*, bringing the commander-in-chief of the squadron, Vice-Admiral Starok, with Flag-Captain Ebergard, who came to present the usual reports to the Viceroy. The Vice-Admiral left again for his own ship at 4 o'clock. The weather continued fresh and the waves in this harbour were much stronger than in Port Arthur.

## THE SECOND DAY.

"On the 13th of October the weather was as fresh as on the previous day. At first, indeed, it was so bad and the waves were so large that it was regarded as hardly possible for the cutters and sloops to venture out in order to make an inspection of the fleet. The visit to each of the ships was therefore deferred, but the vessels were signalled to go through their exercises. About 12 o'clock Engineer Sakharoff, the Governor of Dalny, came on board with his report. After having conversed for some time with his Excellency on the affairs of his district, the Governor was invited to breakfast." (The functionary is said to have presented a pitiable sight as he stood on the quarter-deck in presence of the Admiral and his staff, as wet as if he had been keel-hauled all the way from Dalny. The Admiral kindly told him to go and dry himself before he presented his report). "After breakfast the weather remained unchanged, and indeed the wind only grew stronger, raising such waves as rendered it quite impossible for the Admiral to carry out his inspection on that day."

## THE THIRD DAY.

"On the 14th October," says the *Novi Krai* of to-day, "the weather in the early morning seemed to show a decided improvement, the wind having fallen and the waves having decreased in height so that it was thought possible for the sloops to venture out. After the hoisting of the flag, orders were given to get ready the steam cutter, and at 8.30 the Viceroy, accompanied by the officials of his staff, proceeded on board the flagship, *Petrovsk*. Ascending the deck of this armour-clad, the Viceroy was met by the officers of the squadron and by the commander, Captain (st rank) James. Having received the usual report from the latter, the Viceroy passed down along the front of the line formed by the officers of the ship and the officials belonging to the staff of the chief of the squadron, asking about the health of each person and questioning each about matters of navigation. He then asked after the health of the men who were doing sentry duty and even of the members of the band. He also spoke to and questioned the men whose watch it was. After this he proceeded to inspect the ship. He examined all the decks and made a detailed examination of every nook and corner. He even visited the lazarette, where he questioned the doctor regarding the patients in his care, and conversed with the patients themselves. Then he went on deck again and watched with a critical eye the men go through their drill. The result was that he became fully convinced that the ship was kept in good order, was even a model vessel, and that the instruction of the men in their various duties was carefully attended to. Before leaving, he thanked all; and at 10.30 proceeded in the company of the chief of the squadron and the officials of his staff on board the armour-clad *Sevastopol*. As the cutter went off the ship's company sent a loud "Ura!" after the Viceroy. The Viceroy had previously commanded that no salute should be fired."

In the same way was next inspected the *Sevastopol*. On the conclusion of the inspection, the Admiral thanked all, but especially the commander, and made a little speech in which he reminded the men of the glorious name their vessel bore, and hoped that they would always prove themselves the brave lads they had ever been, mindful of the labours of their fathers—the men who defended Sevastopol.

After tiffin, the Viceroy proceeded again in his cutter between the lines of warships, before directing his course to the iron-clad *Peresiet*, over which floated the flag of Rear-Admiral Prince Uhtomsky. The chief of the squadron and his staff happened to be on board at the time and met the Viceroy. The Viceroy left warmly praising the commander and his men and proceeded to the iron-clad *Retvizan*, which he carefully inspected.

The review came to a conclusion at 5 o'clock in the evening, at which time the Viceroy took leave of all on board the *Retvizan* and descended to his cutter amid loud cheers from the crew of the warship.

## THE SOCIAL SIDE.

At dinner time the cruisers *Zabiyaka* and *Vladnik* arrived with a number of visitors on board—Lieutenant-General Volkoff and the officers of the fortress artillery.

In the evening there was a very striking display made by the search-lights, a display which was rendered more effective by the profound darkness of the night.

## NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* to the 7th inst:—

Viceroy Alexieff has posted a mandate in Moukden offering a big reward for the arrest of anyone spreading rumours that Tung Fushiang is advancing against Russians with an army, or any similar reports.

According to native sources, the Customs at Dalny has ceased working, on account of the Russian Commissioner not having carried on the work in accordance with the regulations drawn up by Sir Robert Hart.

Gen Ma has gone to Shanhaikwan with ten regiments to be stationed just inside the Great Wall. The movement is directed against Russian advancement in that direction. The force left Tungchow on the 2nd for Yung-ping-fu by road, and will go thence to Shanhaikwan.

An American soldier died of the fever now epidemic in Peking. He was buried in the foreign cemetery last Monday, his remains being accompanied to the grave by his comrades, both British and American. A service at the camp, also at the cemetery, was conducted by the Rev. W. B. Stelle, at the request of the commanding officer. Seven other men are laid up in the hospital with the fever. The Governor of the City has given permission for the sinking of one hundred drive wells outside the city. The money, about thirty thousand taels, has been appropriated, each well to cost about two hundred taels.

The young boy who has been found as heir to Prince Chuang's title does not prove to be a near relative. Somebody had to be found or the property and title would lapse, so this poor boy, a very distant kinsman, was found. It would seem after the events of 1900 that it would be no great loss even if the memory and titles of Prince Chuang were allowed to go into oblivion.

The Peking community has been favoured of late by the presence of travellers from abroad who have helped to break our monotony. Dr. Davins, editor of the *New York Observer*, and a well-known correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, gave an address before the Peking Association on his observations in the Philippines. He took an optimistic view of the situation there, and believed that soon the Filipino would see that the Americans are their best friends, and that they are by no means prepared for independence. The work of education is being pushed at a rapid rate and thousands of children are learning the English language. Justice is administered in the courts. The troubles with the (Roman) Catholic Church are not settled, and will doubtless eventuate in the purchase of the church lands by the Government. The Friars cannot be allowed to return to their



parishes, as that would mean insurrection, so invincible is the hatred of the people to the priests.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE BANGKOK JEWELRY CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Bangkok, 6th November.

SIR,—I have just read an account of Mr. Tilleke's case appearing in the *Daily Press* for the 30th October, to hand to-day. It is a most imperfect account, and is calculated to do serious injustice to Mr. Tilleke, whose case is now under appeal. In one sentence it is stated that "at that interview the first defendant declared the stones to be imitation, and after much circumlocution and cross-questioning, admitted he, with two accomplices, had stolen the things, and they had divided them into three parts." The phrase "first defendant" is obviously intended to mean Mr. Tilleke; but he never made any such admission, and the context indicates that the report at this point has been muddled. A casual reader would infer that Mr. Tilleke admitted that he had "stolen the things," which is the exact opposite both of the fact and of the evidence.

Another most misleading and unjust passage is the following:—"From the further evidence it developed that while Tilleke (*sic*) was negotiating with Mr. Grahlert for the return of a portion of the stolen jewels to the latter, in consideration of a heavy *douceur* for himself, he was also playing a double game in order to retain some of the jewels himself." The facts are that Mr. Tilleke had avowed to recover the whole of the stolen property for Mr. Grahlert; that he expressly refused a "heavy *douceur* for himself" (merely remarking that he might perhaps accept a small memento, or something of that kind, but nothing further), and that the idea of a "double game" must have been evolved out of the writer's imagination.

There are other points on which I might comment, but the above will show that the report is seriously inaccurate, and in justice to Mr. Tilleke I hope you will publish this letter. As to my own case, to which a brief reference is made, I could only wish that the *Hongkong Daily Press* would consider the incident of sufficient importance to read the report in the papers which have been sent (in ordinary exchange), and would express its full opinion on the matter from the journalistic point of view.—Yours faithfully,

H. G. GOUGH.

[With regard to what Mr. Gough, the Editor of the *Siam Observer*, writes, we may state that our account of the Bangkok jewelry case was condensed from the very full report in his own paper. The use of the words "first defendant" was a mistake; as Mr. Gough says, "the context indicates that the report at this point was muddled," which we naturally regret. In other respects we relied on the ample report of the *Observer*, but in a long and difficult case it is not of course easy to condense evidence. We have expressed no personal opinion on the case.—Ed. D.P.]

### GUBERNATORIAL VALEDICTORY ORATORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The reference in H.E. Governor Blake's speech, delivered just before his departure, at the City Hall, to a scheme for connecting Hongkong to Canton by rail reminds me that it is not the first time a departing Governor has, so to speak, taken the public into his confidence, giving a little private advice which it will be impossible for them in any way to use.

The last and only occasion in which I heard a departing Governor "let himself go" was at a dinner given to Sir Arthur Kennedy, when he made revelations regarding the sanitary, or rather insanitary state, of the Colony, with solemn warnings of what was likely to occur if matters were not promptly remedied. These caused at the time much surprise and misgivings among the community, who, however, were helpless

to do anything, as the history of the next five years, under Sir John Pope Hennessy, as Governor, records.

You will find the report of Sir Arthur Kennedy's speech in the *Daily Press* of March 3, 1877, but this does not record fully all he said regarding the condition we were drifting into, and the risks the Colony took in allowing things sanitary to go on from bad to worse.—yours, &c.

I. G. S.

### THE JOCKEY CLUB AND FAIR PLAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 27th November.

SIR,—In every British community there is no doubt that sport generally holds a place second only to business, and one finds that sportsmen—not sporting men—are usually gentlemen, and that they "play the game." Until quite recently Hongkong might reasonably feel proud of the part she has taken in connection with the Sport of Kings; now, alas! she too has fallen from her high estate. It is an open secret that a dead set has been made against one of the stewards of the Jockey Club by some of his fellow members who do not scruple to use some of the meanest methods of venting their spleen upon him. This is a man who has been riding and crossing ponies in the East for some twenty-two years, served on the English Association Football Committee—a colleague of such men as Major Marindin and Lord Kinnaird, and has acted as Clerk of the Course here in Hongkong. Yet, forsooth! a cabal must attempt to remove him from his stewardship and, crowning disgrace of all, cause the rejection of every candidate nominated by him for membership of the Jockey Club!

Now, Sir, we are taught from our earliest youth that "Fair play is a jewel," and I submit to you that there has been a notable absence of justice in this case. There is paid to the Government a merely nominal sum as rent for the race course—a dollar a year or thereabouts, and surely direct or indirect payers of taxes have a moral if not an absolute right to be members of the Jockey Club, always providing that they are gentlemen and duly vouched for by two members of the club.

A strong feeling of indignation is abroad; and if at the next election of stewards the members of the club do not show their appreciation of such work as being inimical to the best interests of racing, sport will suffer, and it will be said with truth, that this is not such a very British Colony after all.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

ICHIBAN.

## REVIEWS.

*Life and Sport in China.* By OLIVER G. READY. London: Chapman and Hall.

MR. Ready will be remembered in Hongkong as having lived in our neighbourhood when on the I.M.C. staff at Lappa, and indeed he has only a week ago passed through Hongkong again on his way to Shanghai. Altogether Mr. Ready has lived twelve years in various parts of China, and so cannot be accused of writing on a subject with which he is unacquainted. "Life and Sport" is what he has set himself to describe, and we find him dealing in his various chapters with Anglo-Chinese life, servants and tradesmen, shooting, riding, and sailing, "jamborees," the neighbourhood of Peking, etc.; and finally with discussed points—people, language, missionaries, and chances, i.e., prospects. Mr. Ready says that he wishes to place before his readers a sketch of things as he saw them and to convey to their minds an idea of how Europeans live here, so that the book may serve as a kind of preface to "that enthralling volume, the current history of China, as it is daily revealed in the Press, in magazines, and in learned works." It will be seen, therefore, that Mr. Ready's volume is primarily intended for home readers. But being written in a light and amusing manner, and dealing with many parts of China, it will also prove of interest out here. Some of the stories told may be familiar to "China hands," but there are others which are new to us at

least. The chapters on sport will attract those who care for the forms of it which can be obtained out here. Mr. Ready does justice to the China pony, in both its good and its bad aspect; he has met it in a great number of places and can speak from experience. The title of one of the chapters, viz. "Jamborees," might puzzle some with the judicial and judicious ignorance of Lord Hawkins. On the other hand, there may be some who can sympathise with Mr. Ready's description of a banquet at the Hankow Club on the occasion of the visit of an European prince some years ago; and with that of a cosmopolitan dinner at Kinkiang which nearly ended in legal proceedings.

With regard to Mr. Ready's general impression of China, it is summed up in his preface, wherein he records his conviction that not only is China unconquerable, but she is eminently a conquering race, though not by clash of arms. "Insidiously, remorselessly, and viciously she will subdue apostles of the West who are sent to her, and unless persistently restrained will overflow into adjacent lands and conquer them by cheap labour and unremitting toil." Of missionaries in China he thinks that, while they are greatly over-condemned by European residents, the good they do is also greatly over-estimated by those at home.

Mr. Ready's book may be recommended for amusement and for interest. It is illustrated from photographs of various scenes, including one of fishing-junks in Macao harbour at China New Year, and is tastefully got up by the publishers.

*East of Asia*, Vol. II., No. 3. Shanghai North China Herald Office.

THE latest number of the *East of Asia* magazine appears this time in a deep red cover, with the usual odd design upon it. It is well up to the average in interest. The principal contributors are:—Messrs. C. Bone (on Canton), C. S. Leavenworth (Hanoi Orientalist Congress), S. Pollard (North Yunnan), G. A. Clayton ("where the peach competes with the plum"), C. A. Stanley (the Imperial Pleasure Grounds), Dr. A. H. Smith (the Peking and Lucknow sieges compared), Mrs. Archibald Little (Wushan, a very striking article), the late Dr. Raukin (a pilgrimage in a Peking cart), Messrs. C. W. Allan (on Hankow), James Ware (Chinese provident clubs), W. A. Cornaby (another article on Hanyang), and Dr. J. Edkins (the Eight Genii). It may be seen that there is plenty of variety. The photographs and other illustrations are as numerous as ever and for the most part better reproduced than usual. Those to Mr. Bone's article, in particular, are excellently clear; and those illustrative of Hankow are also first-rate.

### THE YONG-AMPHO INCIDENT.

Mr. Hagiwara, secretary of the Japanese Legation at Seoul, who was prohibited landing at Yong-ampho recently, finally succeeded in making the Russian authority there, Captain Stromiloff, sign an agreement, the chief provisions of which are as follows:—

That the armed Russians on the Yalu shall be prohibited from seizing timber purchased by the Japanese.

That, with respect to the timber seized by the Russians within the territory alleged to have been leased by them, an examination of the same shall be made in the presence of the complainants, the Japanese police, and the Russian officers concerned; and that in case it be found to be Japanese property, it shall be restored to the original owner.

That Russia tender a profound apology for her refusal of a landing to Mr. Hagiwara at Yong-ampho.

That, with regard to the stopping of the *Wakanoura Maru* at Yong-ampho and the landing of Japanese at that port, definite information shall be sent to us after consultation with "the Viceroy of the Far East."

That until Captain Stromiloff shall have received instructions from Viceroy Alexieff the landing of Japanese at Yong-ampho shall not be prohibited.

A Russian copy of the above agreement was handed over by the Captain to Mr. Hagiwara. The latter left Yong-ampho for Seoul on the 30th October.



## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 23rd November.

## IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

## LAND COURT APPEAL CASES.

The hearing was begun of the appeals by the Crown against two decisions of the Land Court. In one Lam Tseung Fuk and Lam Tak Luk claimed a tract of foreshore and sea-bed extending from the old boundary of British Kowloon for a distance of 1½ miles in front of Kowloon City and Chinwan, and completely blocking access to the sea over that distance. In the other Ho Lap Hun claimed 621 mow of land extending from Kowloon City to Lysemun for about 2½ miles along the shore.

The case of Lam Tseung Fuk and Lam Tak Luk was first called.

The Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (Crown Solicitor), appeared for the appellants; Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, solicitors), appeared, first, for two parties who were applying to be joined to the proceedings as respondents and who claimed to have an interest in it as having purchased the land; Mr. F. Paget Hett, solicitor, of Mr. G. K. H. Brutton's office, watched the case for the claimant.

The Attorney-General having expressed himself as satisfied that this motion should be heard despite the absence of formal notice having been served by the other side,

His Lordship asked why this application had not been made sooner, considering that leave to appeal was granted three months ago, whereas no motion paper was filed till the 17th November.

Mr. Slade replied that there were several reasons. First of all they naturally anticipated that the Crown would join them as respondents; the Crown knew of their existence and that they were assignees of this property; their title-deeds were on register.

The Chief Justice—There is no title; the Crown grants the title.

Mr. Slade contended that they had a title and that it was on register, and it was hardly credible that the Crown Solicitor did not order a search to find out who the assignees were. The proper course would have been for the Crown to join them. Then they had the whole rights of this land. It was perfectly obvious to anyone who had read the evidence taken in the Court below that unless the Crown adduced further evidence they could not possibly succeed, and it was not until 13th February they obtained leave to adduce fresh evidence; until that time there did not appear to be any necessity for the assignees to put themselves to the expense of being made parties to the suit, believing that the Crown were not going to adduce fresh evidence. As soon as the Crown got this leave it became of vital importance to these assignees that they should be made parties, and an application was accordingly made. It was not their fault that the Crown before getting their leave to adduce fresh evidence and before filing affidavits had already got a day fixed for the hearing of the case; it was a reversal of the ordinary practice. Coming to the merits of the case, the position of the assignees was set forth in the affidavit by Mr. Deacon, filed on 18th November. He was solicitor for the two applicants. By an agreement dated 4th January, 1901, between two other men and the two applicants the latter purchased from the former (the purchasers from the original claimants) this land which was subsequently held by the Land Court to be the property of the original claimants, the price being \$25,000. It was on 4th November, 1901, that the Land Court gave judgment for claimants. On 30th December, 1901, Mr. Deacon by the claimants' instructions wrote to the Registrar for a certificate of title, as his clients desired to deal with the land. Later he wrote twice to the Colonial Secretary making the same request.

The Chief Justice—Can you tell me, as a matter of fact did the purchasers pay this money?

Mr. Slade—Yes.

The Puisne Judge—But the price was not to be paid till you got your title.

Mr. Slade went on to state that on 4th February Mr. Deacon received a letter from the Colonial Secretary informing him that it was not considered expedient to issue a formal certificate of title pending the settlement of the exact amount of taxes payable upon the land, but that it was hoped that this would be settled at no distant date. On the strength of that letter Mr. Deacon advised the parties that it constituted a sufficient title and that they would be safe in treating it as such, the result being that the assignment of the land was made to the present applicants, who purchased from the original claimants. On the 19th November Mr. Bowley filed an affidavit stating that prior to 17th November he had not received any notice that the applicants had any interest in these claims. He (Mr. Slade) said his clients had good reason to believe that the Crown knew of the assignments. The applicants had the whole of the right of the title and interest of the claimant of this property, and by Section 15, Ordinance No. 18 of 1900, it was clear that from the time the claimants made their claim the applicants were entitled to a position as against the Crown, and under Section 14 a formal title could be granted by Crown lease or otherwise. Their contention was that they had a title, namely, the title laid down in Section 13 of the Ordinance. The Land Court specifically referred to a title in their judgment and allowed the claim of the claimants to the extent of 49 odd acres. His other point was that his clients had got the whole right of these claimants and believed they had a better right on account of that letter which was written by the Colonial Secretary in answer to their specific request that a title be granted. That letter meant only one thing—that the Government would grant a proprietary title as soon as they had settled the exact amount of taxes payable.

The Chief Justice remarked that the Colonial Secretary's letter was not equivalent to the grant of a title by the Governor. The applicant's interest, it appeared to him, was precisely the same as the claimants'; if the appeal was dismissed they would be able to have all the rights of the claimants, and if it was successful, if it was shown that this decision was erroneously obtained from the Land Court they would have to turn round on the claimants and deal with them.

Mr. Slade contended that their point was that they should be compensated by the Crown.

The Puisne Judge—Suppose we upset the Land Court's decision, we are not going to say the land belongs to you; we shall say otherwise.

Mr. Slade—If this title is bad I will get another from your Lordship.

The Puisne Judge—Not from me.

The Chief Justice—It must be from the Privy Council; not from me on this appeal.

Mr. Slade—The question to be decided is—who is entitled to this land—the Crown or the respondents?

The Chief Justice—No; the Crown or the claimants. What we are dealing with is whether a certain decision was a correct decision.

Mr. Slade proceeded to a question that the Ordinance under which the Crown had obtained leave to appeal did not contain any reference to purchasers from original claimants, on which point their position was absolutely unaffected by the Ordinance. The Ordinance indeed was an attempt on the part of the Government to get behind an honest, open speculation in land made by his clients two years ago, and without paying compensation. What the Court had to decide was not the question whether the Land Court adjudged rightly of the facts before them, but who was entitled to this land.

The Puisne Judge—We are not going to do that.

The Chief Justice—It is an appeal against a decision.

Mr. Slade—I submit that what I say is the subject-matter of the case.

The Attorney-General in his reply stated that his friend misconceived his position, and that their Lordships would be travelling out of

their proper course if they were to put his clients as respondents. At the time the case was before the Land Court these persons did not exist so that their presence in the Land Court was not necessary at all. Therefore they could not be parties in an appeal against a decision of the Land Court. Why the delay, till within a few days of the date fixed by the Court for the hearing of the case, in applying for these men to be made respondents? There was absolutely no answer to his Lordship's question. He (the Attorney-General) was not even permitted by the law to accede to this application being granted. His friend had asked too much in asking that the Colonial Secretary's letter be construed into a recognition of a full and complete title. He contended that the Court should not grant this application for four reasons. First of all, the applicants could not be added to the respondents in this appeal because they were not claimants in the Land Court. Then, supposing they were added as assignees, by the law of China, as laid down in a very able exposition by Mr. C. Clementi and Mr. Lau Chi Ping, it was clear that there was no such thing as an assignment at all. This appeal had not been heard as the concluding episode in a case pending before the Land Court; they had come there at the end of more than 18 months, when the gravity of the position in which the public interests of this Colony had by the deception practised upon the Land Court become apparent. The new Ordinance under which the Court now sat and which authorised the Crown to appeal against any decision of the Land Court was an original proceeding rendered necessary for the protection of the public interests of the Colony. The other side had had notice for more than three months that the case was coming on, and they were fully represented and all their interests fully protected by the respondents.

Mr. Slade, in closing the address of counsel, contended that the applicants would not be amply represented by the respondents, who would be satisfied with some \$9,000, whereas his clients claimed compensation for something like half-a-million dollars. In the second place the applicants had points to bring forward in the trial which were not open to the claimants. Thirdly, under the words of Rule 6, the Court ought to make them respondents.

The Chief Justice in delivering judgment said that on 3rd December, 1900, two claimants, Lam Tseung Fuk and Lam Tak Luk, laid a claim to certain lands in the New Territory, and in the course of about a year, on 7th December, 1901, the decision of the Land Court was given. The decision of the Land Court was in favour of the claim by these people and it was the duty of the Land Court if it allowed the claim under Section 14 to report that allowance by the Registrar to the Governor in order that the Governor in due course might order a title appropriate to the case to be granted, or else if he found it inexpedient to grant a title, to refer back to the Court to award compensation—not to a number of assignees, but to the claimant or claimants. The Crown was not represented at that hearing and the Crown was in one sense the standing claimant to all the land there, because under section 15 of the Ordinance all the land was declared to be the property of the Crown except such property as persons shall have a claim to. Well, it was discovered, or the Crown supposed they had discovered, that there had been some mistake in this decision of the Land Court owing among other things to the fact that one of the documents, a very important document, brought before the Land Court was alleged to be a forgery. He was not saying for one second that this was the case; he had not the slightest means of knowing anything about it, but that was one of the reasons stated in the affidavit of Mr. Bowley, the Crown Solicitor, filed on 24th August, 1903. That affidavit contained the suggestion that one of the documents upon which the decision was obtained was a forgery. The Attorney-General appeared before the Court on 25th August, 1903, and was given leave to appeal, any doubt as to whether the Crown was bound by the meaning of the word "claimant" in the other Ordinance being set at rest by the fact that a special Ordinance had been passed (13 of 1903) which gave the Chief Justice the power on good cause shown to grant leave to the Attorney-General



to appeal from any decision to the Full Court whether the Crown was or was not represented before the Land Court. Referring to the statement that the solicitors for the applicants had not read the affidavit which had been made at the time the order was made, his Lordship said it seemed to him a very strange thing that where some \$188,000 were being claimed as compensation by their clients they should not have taken the trouble to refer to what must have been open to them on the files of the Court and which was referred to in the order allowing leave to appeal. He thought they would have listened very intently to that application for leave to appeal, although it was *ex parte*, if they knew it was coming off, and if they had read the affidavit they would have found there was a suggestion of forgery against one of the documents so long ago as August and one would have thought they would have applied without undue delay to be made respondents. He accepted the statement (though it was not upon affidavit) that the firm of solicitors did not know what was in this affidavit but with his experience of the world he could only say it was a very strange thing they should not have taken the trouble to read it when such an enormous sum of money was involved. He was inclined to think they ought to have applied before and were too late now; he thought they were out of time. There had been a great deal of delay in making this application. But he did not decide the matter on that line. What the Court had to decide was whether the decision of the Land Court was proper and correct or not. Supposing the men who had got the recommendation of the allowance of their claim by the Land Court made an assignment and the assignees were willing to go and make another one to-morrow the fact of a number of things happening some years afterwards could not affect the propriety or impropriety of the decision at the time it was given; and that was the matter which they had to decide, whether that decision should have been given and whether it would have been given if the Court had been in possession of all the facts and had not been deceived by some forged document. If the document was found not to be a forgery, and the claim was held to be valid, that was an end of the matter. Supposing the Court held that there was a forgery, could what was done a year or two years afterwards entitle the party putting forward a forged document to have his claim allowed. He did not wish to preclude any claims they might have upon the Government, but whatever happened in this case would not prevent them from taking action against the Government or anyone else they thought fit, and he declined at this stage to complicate the question they had to try as to whether the decision of the Land Court was a proper decision, by admitting the applicants as respondents.

The Puisne Judge thought the application ought to be refused. It appeared to him that to admit these applicants as respondents would amplify the difficulty of coming to a decision on the question as to whether the Land Court was right or wrong when they allowed this claim. At the time the Land Court gave their decision these applicants so far as this case was concerned were non-existent. He was of the opinion that the application was made really to try to get a title out of that Court, which he was not inclined to do.

The application was dismissed with costs.

Mr. Slade afterwards applied for an adjournment of the case of Ho Lap Hun so that he might get the alleged forged title of the land in question examined by experts.

Their Lordships granted an adjournment for six weeks and ordered that the document when it left the Court should be kept in charge of an officer of the Court.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 25th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE  
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

CLAIM AGAINST THE OPIUM FARMERS.  
Lan Cheung sued the Chin Wa Hong Company and Ho Luk, excise officer No. 196, for \$1,000

damages for malicious arrest, false imprisonment, and malicious prosecution on the 29th and 30th September. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors), was for the defendants.

The statement of claim was as follows:—  
(1) The plaintiff is a gentleman residing at 3, Wa Yin Fung, Victoria, in this Colony.  
(2) The defendant Chin Wa Hong is the opium farmer and the defendant Ho Luk is an excise officer in the employ of the said opium farmer.  
(3) On 29th September, 1903, the defendant Ho Luk in the exercise of his duties as excise officer, together with other excise officers and an European police constable lawfully entered the premises, No. 26 Wellington Street, in the occupation of one Wong Kam Chee, for the purpose of searching for opium.  
(4) At the time the defendant Ho Luk so entered the premises, the plaintiff was on the said premises on a visit to Wong Kam Chee.  
(5) Certain opium not covered by valid certificates issued by the opium farmer was found on the premises in possession of Wong Kam Chee.  
(6) Notwithstanding that the opium was not in the plaintiff's possession, the defendants maliciously caused the plaintiff to be arrested by the constable on a false charge of being in possession of the opium.  
(7) Plaintiff was wrongfully imprisoned by the defendants by being given into custody of the constable on this false charge for 1½ hours until plaintiff procured bail.  
(8) Defendants maliciously, and without reasonable and probable cause, on the 29th September preferred a charge of being illegally in possession of opium against the plaintiff, and on the 30th September prosecuted the charge before the Magistrate in the Police Court, when plaintiff was acquitted. He claimed \$1,000 damages.

The statement of defence was as follows:—  
(1) The defendants have no knowledge as to whether the allegations contained in par. 1 of the statement of claim are true or not and they therefore do not admit the truth of such allegations.  
(2) The defendants admit the truth of the allegations which are contained in par. 2 of the statement of claim.  
(3) The defendants admit that on the 29th September, 1903, the defendant Ho Luk in the exercise of his duties as an excise officer together with other excise officers and an European police constable lawfully entered the premises No. 26, Wellington Street for the purpose of searching for opium. The defendants, however, do not admit that one Wong Kam Chee was in occupation of the said premises, as they have no knowledge whether he was so or not.  
(4) The defendants admit that at the time when the defendant Ho Luk so entered the said premises, the plaintiff was on the premises, but they do not admit, as they have no knowledge on the subject, that he was on the premises on a visit to Wong Kam Chee.  
(5) The defendants admit that certain opium not covered by the opium farmer was found on the premises, but they deny that it was found in possession of Wong Kam Chee.  
(6) In answer to par. 6 of the statement of claim the defendants say as follows:—The said opium was apparently in the plaintiff's possession and the said constable arrested him under a proper warrant which he held for the purpose. The defendants did not nor did any of them cause the plaintiff to be arrested by the said constable on any charge whatever either maliciously or otherwise or at all.  
(7) The plaintiff was not imprisoned either wrongfully or at all by the defendants or any of them. The defendants did not nor did any of them give the plaintiff into the custody of the said constable on any charge whatever. The plaintiff was detained by virtue of the said warrant by the police at the charge-room for 30 minutes only and not for 1½ hours whilst bail was being procured. Such detention was not wrongful and did not amount to imprisonment.  
(8) On the 29th September the defendant Ho Luk preferred a charge of being illegally in possession of opium against the plaintiff and on the 30th September, 1903, he prosecuted the said charge before a Magistrate in the Central Police Court when the plaintiff was discharged. The defend-

dants acted *bona fide* and without malice and with reasonable and probable cause in preferring and prosecuting the said charge.  
(9) Save in so far as this statement of defence contains admissions of the allegations which are contained in the statement of claim the defendants deny the truth of each and every of such allegations.

Mr. Slade in opening the case said that the plaintiff was a young man of independent means who appeared to have a taste for opium not manufactured by the opium farmer. In January of last year he was arrested in his own house by an excise officer and taken before the Magistrate who fined him \$300 for being in possession of opium without a valid certificate from the opium farmer. On the 22nd July last the opium farmer caused a raid to be made on his premises and he was again found in illegal possession of opium and was fined \$750. Since then he had given up smoking opium.

His Lordship—Does he not smoke now?

Mr. Slade—I believe not.

Mr. Looker—Perhaps he takes pills.  
(Laughter.)

Mr. Slade, continuing, said that on the 29th September plaintiff went on a visit to his friend Wong Kam Chee, who was manager of a pawnshop at 26, Wellington Street. On the first floor was a large cubicle and the front part was a sitting-room. Outside the room was a verandah. The floor was composed of iron grating so that anyone on the first floor could see what was going on below. On the day in question Lau Chen g went to the shop in the afternoon and stayed for the evening meal. Several others were present and afterwards plaintiff felt drowsy and lay down and slept. About 7 p.m. an excise officer and a constable entered the premises under a warrant. Plaintiff was the only person in the room when the officers came up, the others being on the verandah. The excise officer prevented those on the verandah from coming in and made a search for opium on the plaintiff's person. Subsequently Wong Kam Chee was called in and asked for his keys. He took the excise officer into his cubicle and found cert in opium that was not covered by certificate. There was in the house other opium covered by certificate. Wong Kam Chee was then asked to open some cupboards in the sitting-room, upon which he said they were not his cupboards, but they belonged to the shop. One of the excise officers pointed out the plaintiff to the constable as owner of the shop and the defendant Ho Luk told the constable to arrest him. Plaintiff was thereupon arrested and taken away. The man who pointed out the plaintiff as being the master of the shop was one of the excise officers who had been concerned in the arrest of the plaintiff in his own house on the 22nd July and he consequently knew perfectly well who he was. Wong Kam Chee was well known to the opium farmers; he was a personal friend of one of the managers and was frequently down there himself. He said he knew every excise officer by sight and presumably they knew him. As soon as plaintiff was arrested, in spite of a protest by the manager of the shop, he was taken off to the police station. Wong Kam Chee promptly followed him and said to the inspector in charge or to the interpreter in the hearing of the excise officer who had preferred the charge against the constable that the defendant was not the man at all and that he himself was the owner of the opium. The interpreter told him to come back next day and tell the Magistrate that. He did so and the plaintiff was discharged. These were the facts of the case. He thought he would be able to show a want of reasonable and probable cause for the arrest of the plaintiff.

Evidence was then led for the plaintiff.

Mr. Sharp in opening the case for the defence said the search was a lawful one, as was admitted by the plaintiff, and contraband opium was found on the premises. Plaintiff was present and apparently had been or was preparing to smoke opium. The opium-lamp was alight and opium was on the tray. He submitted that from the evidence he would bring his Lordship would see that there was reasonable and probable cause for supposing that the opium was the plaintiff's. The plaintiff had visited this house on the two consecutive days prior to his arrest and it seemed



under the circumstances that the opium was in his possession. The ground floor was visible through the grating, and what the persons on the first floor were doing when the police officer entered the shop he could not say. When the raiding party went upstairs two men were in the cubicle. Plaintiff was in the cubicle and was lying down on the bed. Sitting on the side of the bed was another man who, he believed, was Wong Kam Chee. It was not said they were smoking, but there was every facility for it. The lamp was lit and there was a good deal of opium, both contraband and opium farm on the tray. A lemon full of opium was lying on the tray and also a horn box partially filled with prepared opium. Two vessels were found containing opium, also a lump of raw opium which he understood was mixed with prepared opium and used in that way. A search was made of the sitting room, but nothing was found there. A five-tael tin of the opium farmer's opium was found in a locked box, and for it a certificate was produced. The constable and the excise officers were of opium that the certificate was produced by the plaintiff. He believed that Wong Kam Chee opened the box, as he was manager of the shop. The question was not who had the keys but who was in possession, or apparent possession, of the opium. The constable asked who was the owner or master of the shop, but neither of the two men answered. Under those circumstances, the plaintiff having produced the certificate and being found lying on the bed, it was assumed that the opium was in his possession, custody, or control, within the definition of the Ordinance. The constable considered that he had good grounds for making the arrest. After the arrest there was some question raised to the effect that plaintiff was the wrong man, but as the constable knew he would be bailed out immediately he took him to the station and laid the charge. Plaintiff was bailed out within ten minutes or a quarter of an hour. He submitted that the plaintiff was in apparent possession of the opium and that under the circumstances there were good grounds for supposing it was in his possession and that defendants did not arrest him maliciously.

Evidence was then led for the defence.

His Lordship in delivering judgment said it seemed to him that a very important point in the case was the position of the plaintiff when the excise officers and the constable entered the house. The plaintiff's story was that he went to sleep in a sort of semi-drunken state in the sitting-room. Defendants' evidence was to the effect that the opium was found in the cubicle. He believed the plaintiff's story that he was asleep when the officers entered—whether from the effects of opium or of samshu. If he was asleep in the sitting-room there was no reasonable cause to arrest him. But the defendants' witnesses stated that they found him in the cubicle—one said he was sitting on the couch, the others that he was lying down—with the lamp and all the opium-smoking paraphernalia beside him and also some of the opium farmer's opium. If he was inside the cubicle where the illicit opium was found clearly they had a right to arrest him. On the point as to whether or not it was Wong Kam Chee who produced the opium certificate the witnesses were at variance. Wong stated that he was on the verandah when the officers entered. Defendants' witness said he was in the same room as the plaintiff was in. Why he should go and make a scapegoat of himself was rather curious: perhaps it was that they wished to put up a new man who would get off with a much less penalty than the plaintiff who had been twice convicted for being in possession of illicit opium. His Lordship added that he believed the defendants' witnesses altogether. Whether or not the plaintiff had been smoking opium on the night in question, he was certain he had been smoking opium that morning. Judgment for defendants with costs.

The Court adjourned.

On the 17th inst. a fire happened at No. 41 Rua de N. S. do Amparo, Macao. Messrs. Meyerink & Co. have had the insured put under arrest for arson. The estimated loss by that fire is \$40,000, including the risk to No. 41

Thursday, 26th November.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

DISSENSION AMONG PARTNERS.

The adjourned case was called of the application for a receiving order by the firm of Ku Fat and Ku Fat Chun, 77, Bonham Strand and 289, Queen's Road Central. This application had already been up twice before the Court. On the last occasion, the 12th inst., his Lordship made a further adjournment in order that notice of the petition might be served upon the five non-consenting partners out of the total of ten partners composing the firm.

Mr. F. Paget Hett, solicitor, of Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton's office, appeared in support of the petition. He stated that there was now before his Lordship an affidavit to the effect that notice had been served on all the partners since the last hearing.

His Lordship remarked that he saw from the affidavit that notice had been served upon Lok Yip Mun, the managing partner, who on the previous occasion was one of the non-consenting partners to the application. Then there were three other men, who all appeared to be in Canton; they had been written to and informed of the petition and requested to return to Hongkong to attend the Court. He did not know that he could take that as equivalent to service of the petition on these men. At the same time, he thought that, subject to any application they had to make in the matter, they were cognisant of the petition; they did not appear to oppose it at any rate. On the previous occasions he declined to make any order because half the partners opposed the application—that was to say, did not consent to it; they did not say one thing or another. Then there was an affidavit that the managing partner did not consent. Now he had been served with the petition and he was not present. Was Mr. Hett in a position to show that the managing partner had received this petition?

Mr. Hett replied that he was in a position to do so. A notice signed by the managing partner had appeared in the local Press saying that the sale of the firm's goods would take place, and it was now proceeding.

His Lordship remarked that as they had had opportunity of being there that day he would in the circumstances make a receiving order. First, however, he would like to examine one of the partners.

One partner, who said he was an outside partner, stated that he did not know what money the firm had in hand, but he believed the deficit was about \$4,000.

His Lordship said it appeared that this application was made in the names of all the different partners and they did not seem to know anything about it. On the previous occasion the man who went into the box said he did not even know how many partners there were in the firm.

Lau Yip, another partner, was put in the witness-box. He deposed that the firm's liabilities amounted to \$7,522.44 and the assets to \$6,002.79. They had taken stock of goods in hand and debts due, and these made up the \$6,000 odd. The figures were got from the books.

His Lordship—I understand you to say, Mr. Hett, that the firm are now selling off the goods?

Mr. Hett—Yes.

His Lordship—Then I will make a receiving order and appoint Mr. Bruce Shepherd to be official receiver.

BUILDING CONTRACTORS IN DIFFICULTIES.

The Kwong Hang firm of building contractors (composed of Ng Yui, Ng Lok, Ng Sze Fat and Yu Liu Kok) applied for a receiving order *ex parte* the debtors. Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, appeared in support of the petition.

From an affidavit filed by one of the partners it appeared that the assets of the debtors consisted of about \$2,200, being \$1,900 balance due from the Tung Wa Hospital in respect of work done in the erection of a new wing for the Hospital, and \$300 balance, being the value of

materials now left on these premises. Liabilities amounted to about \$3,200 for materials sold and delivered to the debtors and work done for them.

Mr. d'Almada stated that when this petition was last before the Court an adjournment was made by his Lordship, after hearing evidence to the effect that \$1,900 was due from the directors of the Tung Wa Hospital, to enable him to ascertain the exact amount due. He had written to Mr. Brotherton Harker, the architect for the Hospital, asking what amount was due to the firm, and the reply was that there was absolutely nothing due to these contractors from the directors of the Tung Wa Hospital. Since then a creditor had obtained judgment against the firm for \$1,074. He had obtained a garnishee order, and the directors of the Hospital had admitted that there was \$,014 due to the contractors.

His Lordship said this creditor had got judgment for some \$1,000 odd against the firm, and their idea in applying for a receiving order was to balk the judgment creditor and prevent him from getting his money, in recovering which he had gone to all this trouble and been more diligent than the other creditors.

Mr. d'Almada remarked that they wanted to put all the creditors on the same footing.

His Lordship said his experience of these Chinese debtors was that they did not care about paying any of their creditors but they liked to balk the man who had got judgment against them and wanted to be paid. He must adjourn this matter. The case must be done properly. There must be an affidavit filed to show that the directors admitted this money was due to the contractors. The letter of Mr. Harker was the only positive evidence they had in the matter. He had not the slightest doubt that if the creditor had not got judgment against the petitioners they would never have come to the Court at all. They owed this man over \$1,000 and judgment was given against them, when suddenly they were seized by a burning desire that all the creditors should be equally paid and that the judgment creditor should not derive any benefit from the legal proceedings he had taken. So they came forward with insufficient affidavits and asked him to make a receiving order, that this man might not get the proceeds of that judgment. He was entitled to the benefit of that judgment which he got unless and until the Court, acting upon proper materials laid before it, made a receiving order. He did not think he had any right to make an order unless these materials were before him.

Mr. d'Almada—I will file an affidavit.

His Lordship entered a note pointing out that no sufficient affidavits were before him to show that the Tung Wa Hospital were now indebted to the firm who were applying for the receiving order and that as Mr. d'Almada told him that Mr. Harker, the architect of the Tung Wa Hospital, had written to deny liability, he could not assume they owed the money and did not feel justified in making a receiving order at present.

The Court adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

"FELLOW VICTIM."

R. A. Collins sued his late landlord, Li Chak Sang, for \$23 odd, overcharges for water-meter taxes. Mr. C. Ewens of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, appeared for the defendant.

Plaintiff stated that his claim represented money overcharged on him by the Government on water bills in respect of his house No. 4, High Street. He applied to the Director of Public Works for a service of water to be led on to the house, and finding that the Government required that it was the landlord who had to undertake this work he asked the landlord to lay on the service, saying he was quite willing to pay the cost. This was done and subsequently the water bills were sent to him through the landlord. For the first month the bill was for \$14 and for the next quarter \$15. He then discovered that the water service which was registered by his meter was led on to four or five other houses. When these had been cut off from his meter his average bill was \$5 per quarter. He had to pay the overcharge



at the time, too, into the Treasury; otherwise his supply would have been cut off.

His Lordship—I am a fellow victim with you. They sent me a bill for \$30 for water when there was no water in the house at all.

Plaintiff—But my meter registered it.

His Lordship—Yes, of course the meter will register it. My meter registered it. And every time the wind blew from the north-east it registered about 1,000 feet more water. I wrote to the Government and refused to pay.

Plaintiff—I could not do that.

His Lordship—No, of course, you are only the tenant.

Cross-examined—Plaintiff carried on business as an aerated water manufacturer. He asked for the meter to be put in. The Government insisted on meters being put into aerated water factories.

Mr. Ewens argued that as plaintiff had paid the money to the Treasury and not to the defendant he could not recover from the defendant.

His Lordship took the same view, and, remarking that plaintiff had a case against the Treasury, but not against the defendant, gave judgment for the defendant with costs.

The Court afterwards adjourned.

Friday, 27th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE  
(PUISNE JUDGE).

#### A MONEY-LENDING FAMILY.

Leung Kwok San, a well-dressed young Chinese, sued a Portuguese resident for \$13 due on promissory notes. Mr. H. K. Holmes, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, defendant's solicitor, produced a document showing that interest at the rate of \$25 per month had been paid to the plaintiff's father.

His Lordship—Who is his father?

Mr. d'Almada—Leung Chung.

His Lordship—Oh, my old friend. How many more sons has he? I have had several of them before me in these cases before.

The plaintiff was called.

His Lordship—How many more brothers have you got?

Plaintiff—Two elder brothers and some two or three years old. (Laughter.)

His Lordship gave judgment for \$5 a month and remarked to the plaintiff—Tell your father I don't want to see any more of his sons here, not even the two-year-olds.

#### THE HONGKONG STEAM WATER-BOAT CO., LIMITED.

##### YEARLY MEETING.

The third ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the Company's Office, 37, Connaught Road Central, on the 24th inst. Those present were:—Mr. Chau Siu Ki (chairman), Capt. Clark, Messrs. J. A. Carvalho, Chin Chung How, Kwan Fong Kuk, Tam Hing Po, and J. W. Kew (manager).

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, I will with your permission take them as read I can hardly add anything to the report and have no doubt that the figures must commend themselves to you, and I hope that our current year will be at least equally as good. The new boat which has been added to our fleet has been in service only three months, so that in consequence of this addition, I have every reason to expect that our next balance sheet will show even better results. You will also have observed from this report, that we have continued the policy of writing down the Company's property, and good-will in particular, which I think proves the soundness of our concern, as it is not often nor can it be expected that a Company can practically wipe out the item under this head in the third year of its existence. With these few remarks, I will move the adoption of the report and accounts, but before doing so, I shall be pleased to answer any questions which shareholders may wish to ask.

There were no questions.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the report and accounts be adopted and passed.

Mr. CHIN CHUNG HOW seconded, and the motion was carried.

Capt. CLARK proposed, and Mr. J. A. CARVALHO seconded, that Mr. Chau Siu Ki be re-elected to this committee.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. TAM HING PO proposed that Mr. FRANCISCO TSE YAT be invited to fill the vacancy on the committee caused by the retirement of Mr. Liao Tse San.

Mr. KWAN FONG KUK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. J. W. Kew, Mr. W. Hutton Potts was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants will be issued to-morrow and shareholders are requested to apply at the office for same. Gentlemen, I thank you for your attendance.

Capt. CLARK proposed a vote of thanks to the general manager and the consulting committee for the satisfactory manner in which the accounts had been drawn up and the business carried on during the past year. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Kew acknowledged the vote of thanks, and the meeting ended.

#### CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LTD.

The accounts of the above company, the report of which we published last week, are as follows:—

| ASSETS.                                                                           |                | \$ | c. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----|----|
| Cash in hand                                                                      | 53,048.52      |    |    |
| Fixed deposits with banks in Hongkong                                             | 350,000.00     |    |    |
| Invested in mortgages of properties:—                                             |                |    |    |
| In Hongkong                                                                       | \$620,000.00   |    |    |
| In Shanghai                                                                       | 106,071.04     |    |    |
|                                                                                   | 726,073.04     |    |    |
| Bonds of Chinese Imperial Government Loan, 1896, 122 bonds at Tls. 250=1s. 30,500 | 39,321.19      |    |    |
| Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures                    | 150,000.00     |    |    |
| Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited, debentures                                      | 5,479.45       |    |    |
| London branch:—                                                                   |                |    |    |
| Cash in hand and in course of collection                                          | \$104,551.29   |    |    |
| Indian Government securities                                                      | 364,726.25     |    |    |
| Consols                                                                           | 49,250.00      |    |    |
| Fixed deposits with banks                                                         | 330,000.00     |    |    |
| Leasehold property, 73 Cornhill                                                   | 25,000.00      |    |    |
|                                                                                   | 873,527.54     |    |    |
| Australasian branches:—                                                           |                |    |    |
| Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit                       | 149,818.04     |    |    |
| Shanghai branch:—                                                                 |                |    |    |
| Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit                       | 86,608.20      |    |    |
| Yokohama branch:—                                                                 |                |    |    |
| Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit                       | 46,891.51      |    |    |
| Interest accrued, but not yet payable                                             | 5,849.87       |    |    |
| Furniture at head office and branches                                             | 7,550.32       |    |    |
| Sundry debtors                                                                    | 47,079.63      |    |    |
|                                                                                   | \$2,544,275.31 |    |    |

| LIABILITIES                   |                | \$ | c. |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----|----|
| Capital subscribed            | \$2,000,000.00 |    |    |
| Paid up \$25 on 24,000 shares | 600,000.00     |    |    |
| Reserve fund                  | 900,000.00     |    |    |
| Dividends outstanding         | 13,463.53      |    |    |
| Exchange fluctuation account  | 151,992.40     |    |    |
| Reinsurance fund              | 32,138.39      |    |    |
| Underwriting suspense account | 45,366.30      |    |    |
| Sundry creditors              | 18,338.31      |    |    |
| Balance of working account    | 491,976.38     |    |    |
|                               | \$2,544,275.31 |    |    |

| WORKING ACCOUNT.                                             |                | \$ | c. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----|----|
| To losses                                                    | 1,060,277.69   |    |    |
| To charges, survey fees, &c.                                 | 225,186.69     |    |    |
| To directors' and auditors' fees at head office and branches | 19,352.77      |    |    |
| To exchange                                                  | 46,367.51      |    |    |
| To balance                                                   | 491,976.38     |    |    |
|                                                              | \$1,843,151.04 |    |    |

|                                                            |                |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| By premi, less re-insurances, return premi and commissions | 1,515,874.72   |  |  |
| By interest                                                | 108,502.23     |  |  |
| By transfer fees                                           | 15.00          |  |  |
| By amount brought forward from last year                   | 218,669.09     |  |  |
|                                                            | \$1,843,151.04 |  |  |

| RESERVE FUND.                |              | \$ | c. |
|------------------------------|--------------|----|----|
| To balance on 31st October   | \$990,000.00 |    |    |
| By balance on 30th September | 900,000.00   |    |    |

#### ACROSS THE NEW TERRITORY.

[BY AN OCCASIONAL VISITOR.]

Three old veterans of the New Territory foregathered the other day, and in their company was an unsophisticated fourth who listened with awe to the weird tales they told about the early days when that delectable country was opened up by the British—tales of carbine and slaughter, camp and battle, captures of banners from the enemy—told with all the picturesque and vividness of language of the old campaigner who relates his adventures so often that even he begins to believe them to be true. It was in a lull of the fast-flowing narrative that the stranger interpolated, "And now, I suppose, you three could write a book worth reading, about these days?" The oldest veteran replied, "Aye," he said, "but I'm feared the hero would be 'Gaelic,'—and 'Girl Brand' the heroine!" To-day "Girl Brand" and "Gaelic" are as popular as ever in the New Territory.

Dwellers in that country have other characteristics beside. I remember that once in the course of my travels in pursuit of game there I saw, in the early morning, looming large among the paddy a great figure of a man on horseback. Dickens tells somewhere that on one occasion in the London slums he met the smallest girl he ever saw carrying the biggest baby he ever clapped eyes on. This horseman was the biggest man I ever saw, riding the smallest pony I ever chanced across. We exchanged flask-bottoms, and he told me he was going out to keep an appointment to have tiffin at one of the Customs stations only about 30 miles away. Over there they lose all perception as to distance. A man will tell you in utmost innocence that the place to which you want to go is only, say, three hours away. "Three hours away" means anything in Ireland when applied to distance (the Irish not being so particular as the ancient Israelites who correctly computed lineal measurement by the day's journey), but once start on the three-hour's journey of the New Territory man and you find the Irish mile dwindles into insignificance.

I was one of a party who recently tramped across the peninsula from Shamohui River on the Deep Bay side to Taipo on the East side. As the crow flies the distance is only some eight miles; following the rugged path the traveller covers more than ten. And so rugged is the road, so full of obstacles, pitfalls and morasses, that to traverse it requires as much physical exertion as twelve miles on a level thoroughfare. We had as a guide a long-legged New Territorian who took us along at such a rate of speed that we hardly had time to observe the singular beauty of the country. On the journey from Samchun to Taipo one passes across two broad valleys with a gentle, wooded upland between and a grizzled mountain range dividing them from To-o Harbour, a whose head sits Taipo. At some places in the twin valleys the paddy was still green, in others golden; but the larger area of the plain was shorn of its crop, which stood in sheaves upon the stubble or lay in grain upon the threshing floors scattered through the fields. The Hakka women, in their curious headgear, turned to gaze stolidly at our swiftly moving party—as stolidly almost as the water-buffaloes that raised their heads from pasturing and followed us with their eyes in mute astonishment. It is a primitive method of threshing the Chinese follow. There is a wide basket upon the edge of which the sheaf is beaten and into which falls the grain; a shield of matting at the back prevents the rice from flying beyond the farther edge of the receptacle.

As we progressed along the uneven track we observed on various roads running parallel and at angles to our own occasional Chinese horsemen, bound, we learned, for a neighbouring village where high festival was to be held. One horseman we overtook. He was not one of these, however. He turned out to be a landowner bound for Taipo to see our Magistrate about some claim of land. His was a picturesque figure, with his bronzed face deeply shadowed under an immense straw sun-hat, turned up at the sides and bound under his chin by a black velvet



band. His pony, a slim unstocked beast with long tail and mane, bore as heavy a caparison and at many bells as any fat abbot's mule that ever delighted the band of Robin Hood. It seemed wonderful that the pony could keep up the gait it did among the stumps and over ditches. But these little animals are surefooted as goats and very untiring.

By the way, the use of ponies by Chinese in the New Territory has increased very much since the British took it over. This is no doubt due in part to the fact that they are used largely by the Europeans there; perhaps more to the disappearance, under our rule, of that fear of showing evidences of wealth which subsisted amongst well-to-do Chinese under their own Government.

Between these great paddy-plains and the sea rises a range of hills up which the traveller must climb before Taipo valley comes in view. When one gains the crest of such a hill (especially if the pace is set by a man with such long and untiring legs as our guide) and sees, below, the desired haven, one acquires a slight conception of what Stanley must have felt when he saw afar off the long-sought waters of Lake Tanganyika. But as it turned out our descent to the valley was nearly as arduous as the ascent had been. From the foot of the hills to Taipo all was plain walking, and we entered the town across the stone bridge which stands a monument to our P.W.D.'s ability to accomplish undertakings under difficulties.

One of our party had got it into his head that there was a shop in the town at which he had been able to purchase beer on a former visit. The sun was blazing hot and we were parched. We searched through all the shops but our "Yau beer-tsau mo?" was everywhere answered with a depressing negative, until a grizzled old shopkeeper made our hearts glad by an affirmative response. He disappeared in the dark recesses of his shop and returned smilingly, in his hand a quart bottle bearing a well known beer label. Hurriedly it was uncorked and—it contained samshu! We had to be content with sui.

From Taipo to Kowloon runs the splendid new road that has been completed quite recently. For 18 miles it stretches like a huge artery connecting the mother Colony with the new. Along its hard, well-kept surface we tramped for other eight miles from Taipo before we sighted the welcome rickshas (three-manned) that were to take us over the last ten miles of our journey. All the way to Kowloon new beauties opened up—smiling valleys, fragrant streams and dashing waterfalls, and verdant patches snatched by an industrious peasantry from the niggard mountain-side.

## SPORTING NOTES.

(Daily Press, 21st November.)

By way of a novelty, the match on the Cricket Ground to-day will be a League game, the H.K.C.C. Reserves meeting the A.O.C. at 1.30 p.m. As the A. O. C. appears one of the best teams in the competition and the Club Reserves look weak in bowling—there is little beyond Lammert's bowling which is of known strength—a defeat for the Club would not occasion surprise. Speaking of surprise reminds me that I wrote last week that I should be much surprised if the Garrison beat the Club on Saturday. The surprise nearly came off, and indeed would have, but for the wonderful form of Mast and considerable assistance from Lowe. When the Club cracks had failed and when 38 runs were still required from the wicket it was certainly not expected that the game could be saved. It was, however, as everyone knows, and in splendid style. The breakdown in the Club's innings is unaccountable, for the military bowling was not so very deadly. Their fielding, on the other hand, was far ahead of the Club's. Truly, there is a lot of bad fielding to be seen on the Cricket Ground. If running out all hits would improve it, then those in favour of doing so have a case already proved.

It was very kind of Penang to save us from the wooden spoon of the Interport rifle contest, especially as they did it by the handsome margin of 141 points. But there is little enough for

our men to pride themselves upon, except indeed for Sergeant-Instructor Davies, whose 102 was a fine performance; he was no less than 13 points ahead of the team average, and beat the best Singapore man, Captain Elliot, by 2 and the leading Shanghai man, Inspector Wiesen, by 4. A comparison of the three teams shows that for Singapore one score of 100, seven between 97 and 90, and two below 90, were put in; for Shanghai, seven between 98 and 90, and three below 90; and for Hongkong, one of 102, three between 95 and 91, and six below 90. These figures tell their own tale. Hongkong has now scored 9 firsts, 1 second, and 4 thirds; Singapore, 3 firsts, 7 seconds, and 4 thirds; Shanghai 2 firsts, 6 seconds, and 6 thirds; and finally Penang (which joined the contest in 1901), 3 fourths.

The marks towards this season's championship of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club up to date stand as follows:—

### CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS.

|        |    |         |   |
|--------|----|---------|---|
| Vernon | 20 | Aileen  | 5 |
| Dione  | 5  | Elspeth | 0 |

### ONE-DESIGN CLASS.

|          |   |         |   |
|----------|---|---------|---|
| Min      | 8 | Colleen | 2 |
| Erica    | 8 | Bonito  | 2 |
| Kathleen | 7 |         |   |

### SECOND CLASS.

|             |    |             |   |
|-------------|----|-------------|---|
| Alannah     | 11 | Doreen      | 1 |
| Gloria      | 10 | Iris        | 0 |
| Payne       | 4  | Mist        | 0 |
| Chanticleer | 4  | Maid Marian |   |

(has not sailed)

Alannah has entered a protest against Chanticleer for an alleged foul in the 2nd Race.

The Victoria Recreation Club's full regatta programme shows a great variety of racing. Nine rowing and three sailing contests are to be decided on the first day, the 17th inst., and eight rowing and two sailing contests on the following day. The most interesting race should be for the open Challenge Cup, between the V. R. C. and the Hongkong Boat Club, but it is too early to discuss the prospects yet.—The Boat Club's annual meeting last Tuesday had no sensational features. The elections of committees resulted as follows:—General committee—Messrs. Carpenter, Gale, Kohler, Messer, Rouse and Warre. Balloting committee—Messrs. Barlow, Danby Davies, Kennett, Konig, and Tester. The Hon. F. H. May was elected president, and Mr. Basil Taylor vice-president.

To-day at 11 a.m.—that, at least is, the advertised time—a match will commence on the Cricket Ground between the Club and the Navy. The Club team contains six of the late Interport team and looks on paper very strong. The Navy, considering the limited number of ships in the Harbour at present, is also a fairly powerful side. In the cold snap which we are now enjoying, or saying we enjoy, some brisk play will be looked forward to. The presence of the bands of H.M.S.S. *Amphitrite* and *Blenheim* should contribute not a little to the enjoyment.

Next Saturday the leading cricket match will be between the Interport team and the Rest of Hongkong, including the warships in harbour. The Interport XI. will, of course, unfortunately lack the services of Lumsden, Lowe taking his place. Lumsden has had two operations on his knee, and is now on the road to recovery. It is hoped that he will escape a permanent stiffness. It is unlikely, however, that he will play cricket again this season. Without him the XI. will be robbed of its brightest star, but still there is Turner, as well as a number of good bats who did not come off against Shanghai, and the bowling inspires confidence. The Rest ought to be able to get together a capital team with the assistance of the Navy, who may be strengthened by next week. There is a good nucleus of a side in Sercombe Smith, Chichester, Lee, Heath, Rimington, P. G. Davies, W. Dixon, and Mackenzie, with Maitland, Mast and others to compete for the last three places.

In League cricket the Civil Service C. C. meets the Craigengower C. C. this afternoon. The Civil Service men have much the superior record, and have only just been deposed from the leadership in the League table by the

A.O.C.; but still I cannot think that the Craigengower has done its best so far. If so, the club has fallen off since last season, and there seems no reason for this, as its personnel is practically the same. I expect to see it higher up the list before long. The Parsees make their debut in the competition, turning out in the Happy Valley to-day against the Tamar team, who have lost both their engagements up to date.

To-day the Association team of the Club meets the V.R.C. at 4 p.m. Neither team has settled down yet to its true form, but there is promise in both. It is to be hoped that the civilian sides will distinguish themselves more this season than last, for undoubtedly a certain amount of interest for the residents here evaporates when only service teams are left to fight it out. The triangular battle between Army, Navy, and civilians is required to make a really successful season. Up to the present Rugby football attracts more spectators than Association. It is a great pity that there is only one field of play for the two sections of the H.K.F.C., which necessitates important games such as that between the Club and the Navy being played on some other day than Saturday. Thursday's match was well worth watching. The Club backs were far too strong for their opponents, but forward there was little in the game, and that little was in favour of the Navy. Still it must be remembered that the Club pack was without Hallifax and Goldring. On the other hand, the "Navy" was only the Tamar, *Amphitrite*, and *Blenheim*. Their forwards were a big, strong lot of men, who showed up well in the scrum. Formby, if his methods were a little crude, was always on the ball, and his powerful physique was most useful as the ball came out of touch. Behind, Stoyles proved himself a real flier; he seemed the fastest man on the field, though Robertson of the Club was not far behind, and Barnes has an excellent turn of speed for one of his build. Pearce and Becke complete a fine three-quarter line for the Club, and both the halves on Thursday, Campbell and Fletcher, are well worth their place. Fletcher is less obtrusive, but works hard all the time. Campbell might learn to collar rather than to "scrag"; otherwise he is a plucky and persevering half. The whole team, at its full strength, is a capital combination.

The approach of December (of which the coldness of yesterday made us almost painfully aware) begins to make footballers think of the Shield ties. Entries for the competition close on the 12th prox. and by the end of the month first round play should be commencing. An important alteration has been made in the rules of the competition. In response to the request of the Sherwood Foresters, that regiment and the Royal Artillery will be permitted to enter one or more teams instead of company elevens as before. This is a concession which should greatly increase the chances of a military side winning the trophy. The Sherwoods last year did not show up very prominently in the competition, but there is some good material, and, not being restricted to company teams, they should be able to get together a good XI. or two. It is to be noted that the new regiment do not by any means play the rather violent game of their predecessors, the Welsh Fusiliers. From what I have seen of them, their game is a strictly fair one. Some of the Fusiliers, it may be remembered, were inclined to distinctly rough play.

Only one hockey match of any importance took place during the past week, the *Amphitrite* team beating the Club by 3 goals to 2. The Club was unlucky to lose, as one or two easy chances of scoring were offered but not taken. Still, of course, good and prompt shooting is the mark of a successful team. A new back has been discovered for the H.K.H.C. in the person of Lieut. Smith, R.N., who is very sound in defence. An interesting game will be played on Monday, Scotland v. the World—in honour of St. Andrew's Day, I suppose. A proposal to play the game the day after the ball was rejected.

Bowling, in view of the match for the Shield between the Hongkong and German Clubs, is



brisk just now. This week the probable candidates for the two teams bowled on each other's alleys, the result being rather flattering to the Hongkong Club, whose representatives did very well on the new German alleys, whereas the Germans did not perform over well on their opponents' alleys. Still there is a fortnight more before the match comes off and there may be changes of form by then. In the Hongkong Club team besides the five old men men J. E. Lee, T. C. Gray and C. P. Chater are the likeliest additions.

Yachting affairs are progressing well. I note that *Iris's* handicap has been increased from 30 to 35 seconds per mile, while *Gloria's* has been reduced from 45 to 35 seconds per mile. So far *Dione* has made 5 marks; *Iris* 0. The third race is to be sailed from Police Pier, Kowloon, round a mark boat in Quarry Bay Channel Rocks, Cust Rocks Buoy, Mark Boat in Quarry Bay, Channel Rocks, and home—11 miles.

It is thirteen days still from the first Test Match in Australia, and the game is being eagerly looked forward to by cricketers. The doubt about the first game of the tour has been cleared up since last I wrote. It was a draw. In spite of four days being allotted to the match, no definite result was arrived at. Just two short, of a thousand runs was scored and 25 wickets fell, so that the average per wicket was nearly 40. South Australia was 2 only on with 3 wickets to fall in the second innings when play closed, so that the English team was obviously robbed of victory. This start, followed by the win over Victoria, is more than encouraging.

It is proposed to send a representative Indian cricket team, probably with one or two players, from Ceylon, to England next year. All the first-class counties, with the exception of Essex whose finances are at very low water, as the result of two successive wet seasons, and who have been obliged to curtail their fixture list for next season, are prepared to give the team a match, as also the M.C.C., London County, the Universities, and the Grange C. C. of Scotland.

## OMPAX.

## FOOTBALL.

## H.K.F.C. v. THE GARRISON.

Owing to the heavy rain before the match on the 21st inst., the game between the Club and the Garrison was not very interesting. The ball was too slippery and style suffered thereby. The Garrison had a good deal the worse of the game and lost by 4 tries (Robertson 2, Schlanders 1, Sandford 1) to nil. Robertson played a good game for the Club behind, and the forwards completely overran the military pack.

## H.K.F.C. v. THE NAVY.

This match under Rugby rules was played in the Happy Valley on the 25th inst. The following were the teams:—

H.K.F.C.—Lieut. G. B. Macdonald, back; Lieut. J. H. W. Becke, T. E. Pearce, O. J. Barnes, W. R. Robertson, three-quarters; Lieut. P. H. Campbell, A. G. M. Fletcher, halves; H. F. Chard, H. C. Sandford, Lieut. M. R. Strover, W. A. Crake, P. H. Crofton, K. A. Selanders, Lieut. E. Rogers, and W. O. Koehler, forwards.

Navy team:—Crawford, back; Parker, Stoyke, Loveband, Bigg, three-quarters; de Veuille, Lamb, halves; Barnard, Kellett, Formby, Barnby, Roe, Rice, Rowley, and Smith, forwards.

Shortly after 4.30 Sandford kicked off for the Club, who were *minus* Fletcher at the start. The Navy forwards early appeared to advantage, but the Club backs were obviously better—an impression which was amply proved as the game went on. About five minutes after the commencement Fletcher turned up, and it was not long before a good pass by Pearce enabled Barnes to get through and score a try. The place-kick by Barnes himself failed. The kick from the 25-mark brought the Navy no relief, but a break away by Chard was given off side and a free kick was awarded to the other side. Barnes next put in a good run, but he had nobody to pass to. An attempt to drop a goal by Pearce was unsuccessful. Some good passing among the Club backs finished up with

a fast run by Barnes, who, however, was collared and had his shirt torn off his back, necessitating a short retirement. Becke now showed up prominently and finally got through. Pearce failed to convert the try. Barnes then returned in a Club jersey. The game was next in the Navy half, and among the forwards, the Navy scrumming well, until a good kick by Stoyke took the ball over the centre-line. Another free kick to the Navy still further improved their position, but the ball was brought back to midfield. A rush of the Navy forwards ended in Macdonald failing to field the ball, but the Navy missed their chance, though having the better of the game just now. Pearce relieved with a dodging run, and Robertson put in a fine kick. At half time the score stood at two tries to nil in favour of the Club.

On the re-start a round of passing by the Club forwards failed to gain ground, and Stoyke, intercepting a pass, was almost in. Immediately afterwards he improved on this and got over the line in the corner. The goal kick failed. The Navy continued to press, but a fine run by Pearce along the left wing was followed by some good work by Barnes and Becke. After a return to half way a poor kick by Crawford let the Club in again and Pearce taking a pass ran in. Barnes's kick was unsuccessful. No relief came to the Navy, but a bad pass lost Hongkong a chance. Another round of passing followed and Robertson got in right behind. Barnes this time landed a goal. After the re-commencement Formby charged down a club kick, and "a hand ball" brought the scrum dangerously in front of the Hongkong goal. However, the Club forwards worked the ball up, and Robertson dribbled nearly the whole length of the ground, the whistle calling him back near the Navy 25-flag for some reason not apparent. It was now growing dark and play became difficult to follow. Barnes got in again, and placed another goal. After some up and down play, a kick by Macdonald into touch was answered by a Navy run down the left wing, and finally a try (with a strong suspicion of off-side in it) was registered against the Club, who now appeared to be getting demoralised. Chard only just managed to save another try by falling on the ball. When the whistle blew the score was:—

H.K.F.C. 2 goals 3 tries (19 points). Navy 2 tries (6 points).

Most prominent for the Club were Barnes, Pearce and Robertson at three-quarters, Chard, forward, and Campbell at half, the latter being particularly useful at defence. Stoyke and Formby showed up best for the Navy.

## H.K.F.C. v. V.R.C.

On Saturday afternoon, Nov. 28th on the Happy Valley ground, the Hongkong Football Club scored a decisive victory over the V.R.C. by 5 goals to nil.

Danby was unable to turn out for the Club, Whitmore being partnered by Richardson, an experiment completely justified by the result, as the last-named player was responsible for no less than four of the five goals scored.

The Club won the toss, and elected to play with the sun at their backs. The V.R.C. went off with a rush, and Kew had to clear from a shot by Humphreys. Whitmore then took the ball down and centred well, but Cooper shot wide of the posts. Again the V.R.C. outside left got away, but spoiled the effort by a bad centre. The Club halves were playing a sound game, Bonnar especially being conspicuous for some fine head-work, completely breaking up all attempts at combination by the V.R.C. front line. The Club were now pressing severely, and at length a shot at close quarters by Richardson beat Fittock all the way. Sayer, at outside right, was playing a good game, and gave Kew a hot shot to negotiate, which, however, he cleared in fine style. Brent again tested Fittock, and after a corner had been conceded, without result, Whitmore again took the ball down the left wing, passing to Cooper, who shot straight, but Fittock managed to clear. Half-time arrived with the score:—H.K.F.C., 1; V.R.C., 0.

On resuming, play was for a time confined to mid-field, and somewhat ragged in character, the V.R.C. adopting kick-and-rush tactics. From a break away Forbes put in a long dropping shot from the half-back line, which was well saved by Kew. The more methodical methods of the Club were now beginning to tell, and they were pressing almost continu-

ously, Ancott and Bonnar, the last-named of whom had changed places with Austen, easily checking the attempts of the V.R.C. forwards to get within shooting distance. After Whitmore had sent in a tame shot along the ground, which Fittock easily cleared, Richardson again took command of the ball, and scored a second goal for the Club. From the kick-off the Club still pressed, and Loureiro had to give a corner. Brent took the kick, and, dropping the ball nicely under the bar, the Club were three up. Still pressing, Cooper tried a shot, but the ball went over the bar. It was now a foregone conclusion that the V.R.C. were destined to go under, and Richardson, receiving the ball from Whitmore, again found the net. A spasmodic break away by the V.R.C. left Humphreys with the ball at his feet and only Kew to beat, but he could do no better than shoot wide of the goal, and, Richardson scoring again for the Club, the whistle sounded with the final score standing:—

H.K.F.C. ... .. 5  
V.R.C. ... .. 0

The teams were:—

H.K.F.C.—F. H. Kew, goal; H. C. Austen and V. F. Aucott, backs; G. R. Macdonald, J. W. C. Bonnar, and H. C. Gray, halves; H. A. Brent, R. Hancock, C. R. S. Cooper, J. Richardson, and R. A. Whitmore, forwards.

V.R.C.—C. Fittock, goal; A. Loureiro and J. Witchell, backs; J. Forbes, H. S. Holmes, and J. Duncan, halves; H. W. Sayer, J. Clelland, E. R. Hertton, J. Whyte, and E. Humphreys, forwards.

Referee, Mr. C. T. Kew.

## SHOOTING.

## R.N. RANGE STAFF v. R.E.

A shooting match was fired off at the Kowloon Range yesterday between the Royal Naval Range Staff and the Royal Engineers. The wind was steady from the right front, but the light dull. The Range staff won with a grand total of 736 against the Royal Engineers' 662, or with an average per man of 92.0. Results as follows:—

## RANGE STAFF.

|                                  | 200  | 500  | 600  | Total |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|
|                                  | Yds. | Yds. | Yds. |       |
| Lieut. Stansbury, R.N.           | 32   | 33   | 33   | 98    |
| Sgt.-Inst. F. Davies, R.M.L.I.   | 33   | 32   | 33   | 98    |
| P.O. 1st Class I. Rippen, R.N.   | 33   | 34   | 31   | 98    |
| C.P.O. E. Denner, R.N.           | 29   | 32   | 30   | 91    |
| Sgt.-Inst. Griffiths, R.M.L.I.   | 32   | 30   | 27   | 89    |
| Col.-Sgt. Inst. F. S. Cross      | 33   | 29   | 26   | 88    |
| P.O. 1st Class B. I. Chase, R.N. | 31   | 31   | 26   | 88    |
| P.O. 1st Class P. Allen, R.N.    | 31   | 29   | 26   | 86    |
| Total                            | ...  | ...  | ...  | 736   |

Average per man 92.0

## ROYAL ENGINEERS.

|                         | 200  | 500  | 600  | Total |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|-------|
|                         | Yds. | Yds. | Yds. |       |
| S.-Sgt. Ashford, R.E.   | 28   | 31   | 28   | 87    |
| Sgt. Thornhill, R.E.    | 29   | 30   | 27   | 86    |
| S.-Sgt. Marsh, R.E.     | 28   | 28   | 29   | 85    |
| Cpl. Angus, R.E.        | 32   | 30   | 22   | 84    |
| Sgt. Rowe, R.E.         | 26   | 27   | 28   | 81    |
| Sapper Robertson, R.E.  | 27   | 29   | 25   | 81    |
| S.-Sgt. McSweeney, R.E. | 27   | 26   | 26   | 79    |
| S.-Sgt. McGerrard       | 2    | 31   | 25   | 79    |
| Total                   | ...  | ...  | ...  | 662   |

Average per man 82.7

Commenting on the bellicose boasting of the *Novae Krai* of Port Arthur last month, the Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—"The tone of Admiral Alexieff's organ suggests that he has forgotten to take his fire-extinguishers with him to Port Arthur."

According to *L'Echo de Chine*, M. Brunat, Chairman of the French Municipal Council at Shanghai, while recently in France, succeeded in effecting a loan of three million francs (£120,000) for the French Council. This will enable it to pay off the advances it has received from local banks at local rates of interest, the repayment of which these banks have been constantly urging. The new loan has been obtained from the Banque de l'Indo-Chine, and the Commercial, Industrial, and Colonial Bank of Lyons.



## CRICKET.

## H.K.C.C. v. THE NAVY.

Only an hour and a quarter after the advertised time—11 a.m.—a match commenced on the Cricket Ground on Saturday, Nov. 28th between the H.K.C.C. and The Navy. The bands of H.M.S.S. *Amphitrite* and *Blenheim* being in attendance. The Navy was not, of course, at anything like full strength, seeing how small a contingent of the China Squadron is at present in our harbour. Nevertheless their team was fairly powerful, and the two bats who came off so well for them on Saturday have both made excellent reputations up north. Irwin is credited with three "centuries" and of Moore it is unnecessary to speak here; his batting is well known in Hongkong. Batchellor took the place of Barnby in the Naval team, while R. Hancock was unable to turn out for the H.K.C.C. R. E. O. Bird coming into the team instead. Sercombe Smith won the toss and went in first with Maitland. A fair commencement was made, the score mounting steadily, principally through Maitland's agency, until 37 was reached, when Smith retired. Ward followed in and both bats settled down to make a stand. At the fifteen interval they were still together with 73 on the board. The interval seemed to put more vigour into the batsmen, and runs came faster. Ward gave a couple of chances, but it was not till 134 had been scored that the separation came, Maitland being out for a sterling 60. His first stroke looked like a possible catch, but his innings was invaluable. Chichester troubled the scorers little, but Hancock showed good form, and he and Ward put on 46 before the latter was out for a bright and excellent, if somewhat lucky, 87. Hancock stayed until 216, making one sixer in his innings of 33, and Turner and Arthur brought the score to 229 before Smith declared the innings closed at 3 o'clock, giving the Navy two hours in which to win or get out. Obviously the latter fate was the more likely, and when Rowe was run out at 7, things looked gloomy for the naval men. However, when Barnard joined Irwin a good stand was made, and 60 was on the board before Barnard put his leg in front of the wicket to one of Sercombe Smith's deliveries. Norfolk, who followed, was ill at ease and only survived a few balls, but Moore joining Irwin, started with a 4 and followed it up with another two later. Continuing to play in this vigorous style he added runs at a rapid pace, while Irwin went on prettily and effectively, if not so fast. Changes of bowling were frequent, but unavailing, and the Navy seemed fairly certain of a draw. But at 153 Irwin unfortunately stepped in front of a ball from Chichester and was given out. His 58 was a charming innings. With his departure things went badly for the Navy. Moore left at 175, having made 66 out of the 102 while he was in. No less than 12 fours were included in his score. Sercombe Smith and Rimington proved too much for the remaining men, and a couple of minutes before time the Navy's innings closed for 195, leaving the Club winners by 34 runs.

## Scores and analysis:—

## H.K.C.C.

|                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| T. Sercombe Smith (capt.), b Meaden..... | 13 |
| F. Maitland, b Moore.....                | 60 |
| A. G. Ward, c de Paris, b Meaden.....    | 87 |
| Major Chichester, c and b Silver.....    | 1  |
| H. Hancock, b Meaden.....                | 33 |
| W. C. D. Turner, not out.....            | 12 |
| H. Arthur, not out.....                  | 10 |
| Extras.....                              | 13 |

## Total (5 wickets).....

229  
R. E. O. Bird, W. W. Ross, Lieut. Rimington, S.F., and A. B. Lowe did not bat.

## THE NAVY.

|                                                         |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Mr. Irwin, R.N., l.b.w., b Chichester.....              | 58 |
| Mr. Rowe, R.N., run out.....                            | 5  |
| Mr. Barnard, R.N., l.b.w., b Smith.....                 | 23 |
| Lt. Norfolk, R.N., c Turner, b Chichester.....          | 1  |
| Eng.-Lt. Moore, R.N., (capt.), c Rimington, b Lowe..... | 66 |
| Mr. F. H. Batchellor, R.N., run out.....                | 8  |
| Mr. Swan, R.N., b Rimington.....                        | 5  |
| Mr. V. de Paris, not out.....                           | 6  |
| Dr. Meaden, R.N., b Smith.....                          | 1  |
| Mr. C. Silver, R.N., c Rimington, b Smith.....          | 7  |
| Lt. Forbes, R.N., b Rimington.....                      | 0  |
| Extras.....                                             | 13 |

## Total.....

195

## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

## H.K.C.C.

|              | O. | M. | R. | W. |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| Silver.....  | 12 | —  | 74 | 1  |
| Swan.....    | 4  | —  | 17 | —  |
| Meaden.....  | 13 | —  | 44 | 3  |
| Norfolk..... | 10 | 1  | 30 | —  |
| Moore.....   | 8  | 1  | 45 | 1  |
| Irwin.....   | 2  | —  | 6  | —  |

## THE NAVY.

|                     | O.   | M. | R. | W. |
|---------------------|------|----|----|----|
| Bird.....           | 4    | 1  | 11 | —  |
| Lowe.....           | 10   | —  | 47 | 1  |
| Hancock.....        | 5    | —  | 16 | —  |
| Rimington.....      | 10.2 | 2  | 27 | 2  |
| Sercombe Smith..... | 9    | —  | 34 | 3  |
| Chichester.....     | 6    | —  | 37 | 2  |

## CIVIL SERVICE C.C. v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

This League match was played at the Happy Valley on Saturday last and ended in another victory for the Civil Service. For the winners Dr. Atkinson gave a dashing display of batting, while both Jackman and Wittchell bowled well. Brawn was responsible for a good score on behalf of the losers. Score and analysis:—

## CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

|                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| A. O. Brawn, l.b.w., b Jackman.....       | 38 |
| J. D. Kinnaird, c and b Wittchell.....    | 6  |
| J. P. Jordan, l.b.w., b Jackman.....      | 3  |
| E. Hertton, c Jackman, b Wittchell.....   | 2  |
| L. Lammert, c and b Wittchell.....        | 4  |
| L. A. Rose, b Wittchell.....              | 9  |
| R. Baza, b Jackman.....                   | 3  |
| E. Pestonji, c Atkinson, b Wittchell..... | 3  |
| J. Stuart, c and b Jackman.....           | 2  |
| H. Taylor, b Jackman.....                 | 0  |
| E. Ford, not out.....                     | 0  |
| Extras.....                               | 2  |

## Total.....

72

## CIVIL SERVICE C.C.

|                                                |    |
|------------------------------------------------|----|
| R. Wittchell, b Pestonji.....                  | 0  |
| — Jackman, b Brawn.....                        | 13 |
| Dr. J. M. Atkinson, c Lammert, b Pestonji..... | 32 |
| G. A. Woodcock, c Taylor, b Pestonji.....      | 11 |
| J. Deveney, l.b.w., b Lammert.....             | 10 |
| L. E. Brett, b Pestonji.....                   | 0  |
| W. Pitt, not out.....                          | 4  |
| Extras.....                                    | 13 |

## Total (6 wickets).....

83

F. T. Robins, — Craig, H. J. Gidley, and W. H. Woolley did not bat.

## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

## CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

|                | O. | M. | R. | W. |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| Jackman.....   | 11 | —  | 39 | 5  |
| Wittchell..... | 11 | —  | 31 | 5  |

## CIVIL SERVICE C.C.

|               | O. | M. | R. | W. |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| Brawn.....    | 9  | 2  | 26 | 1  |
| Pestonji..... | 14 | 3  | 22 | 4  |
| Taylor.....   | 3  | —  | 17 | —  |
| Lammert.....  | 2  | —  | 5  | 1  |

## H.M.S. "TAMAR" v. PARSEE C.C.

This match in the Happy Valley on Saturday 28th Nov. was the first League engagement of both Clubs. The *Tamar* did well and after declaring the innings closed at 104 for 8 wickets dismissed the Parsees for 65 only. Scores:—

## H.M.S. "TAMAR."

|                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| R. D. Forbes, c B. Mehta, b Noria.....   | 0  |
| A. C. Butt, c Cooper, b Noria.....       | 11 |
| T. H. C. Smith, b Noria.....             | 0  |
| E. Crabtree, c Ruttonjee, b Captain..... | 24 |
| H. S. Holgate, b J. N. Mehta.....        | 27 |
| P. J. King, b J. N. Mehta.....           | 0  |
| A. E. Oliver, b Noria.....               | 19 |
| Hawkins, not out.....                    | 13 |
| Yates, b Noria.....                      | 1  |
| Corben, not out.....                     | 8  |
| Extras.....                              | 10 |

## Total (8 wickets).....

104

## PARSEE C.C.

|                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| K. D. Mistry, c Yates, b Crabtree.....  | 0  |
| E. B. Cooper, c Holgate, b Butt.....    | 21 |
| J. N. Mehta, b Hawkins.....             | 25 |
| J. D. Noria, c Forbes, b Butt.....      | 8  |
| J. H. Ruttonjee, b Oliver.....          | 6  |
| D. E. Captain, c Forbes, b Hawkins..... | 1  |
| J. M. Master, c Butt, b Hawkins.....    | 3  |
| N. B. Shroff, b Hawkins.....            | 4  |
| B. K. Mehta, l.b.w., b Crabtree.....    | 0  |
| M. D. Vania, not out.....               | 0  |
| C. B. Morawala, b Hawkins.....          | 0  |
| Extras.....                             | 2  |

## Total.....

65

## CIVIL SERVICE C.C. v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

The second team match on Saturday afternoon 28th Nov. ended in a draw in favour of the Craigen-gower 2nd XI, who scored 95 for 4 wickets and declared, the Civil Service 2nd XI making 48 for 5 wickets before stumps were drawn. The scores were:—Craigen-gower C.C., 95 (Asger 4, Austin 18, Farne 5, Rapp 6, Houghton 40 not

out, Pestonji 19 not out, extras 3. Innings declared); Civil Service C.C. 48 for 5 (Hutchings 3, Bryant 20, Knight 8, Cooper 42, McKenzie 9, Milne 0, Brown 0 not out, Extras 4).

## YACHTING.

## SATURDAY'S RACE.

At the start *Dione*, *Elspeth*, and *Aileen* were becalmed a little behind the line; *Vernon* was slightly astern. Emphasising the stillness of the air, the tide carried the yachts; there was not even breeze enough to keep them from drifting on astern. After about four minutes *Aileen* and *Vernon* dropped anchor. At last, seven minutes after second gunfire, *Dione* passed the mark-boat; about the same time *Vernon* and *Aileen* weighed anchor. A light air had sprung up from the west, the boats being just able to do a little more than hold their own against the tide. Shortly afterwards the breeze freshened a little. *Aileen* crossed the line eleven minutes after gunfire *Vernon*, with *Elspeth* a shade behind, followed about a minute later. The yachts then lined with *Vernon* if anything a little ahead. Approaching Blackhead's Pier main booms were slacked well out on the star-board side. Spinnakers were used; it was necessary to pole them out. Shortly after two o'clock the wind, from the east, freshening, drove *Vernon* past Blackhead's Pier; she was about a minute and a half ahead of *Aileen*. *Elspeth* and *Dione* were then working for Causeway Bay. *Vernon* and *Aileen* made successive short tacks off Kowloon Docks. After sailing across Kowloon Bay they tacked for Quarry Bay. *Dione* and *Elspeth*, now on the opposite shore, worked similar tactics. After rounding the mark-boat in Quarry Bay the yachts headed for Channel Rocks. *Vernon* rounded them 70 seconds ahead of *Dione*; 50 seconds separated *Dione* and *Elspeth*; *Aileen* was a long way astern. The course now lay towards Cust Rocks Buoy. After this was cleared spinnakers were set. *Vernon* rounded 40 seconds ahead of *Dione*; *Dione* was four minutes ahead of *Elspeth*; *Elspeth* was about three minutes ahead of *Aileen*.

At this time (Cust Rocks Buoy) the race was two hours old. Making for the mark-boat in Quarry Bay for the second time *Vernon* headed for Causeway Bay, the other three for Channel Rocks. *Elspeth*, when about a quarter of a mile from the buoy, tacked, now steering for Quarry Bay; *Dione* and *Aileen* ran across Kowloon Bay and tacked into Quarry Bay. Rounding Channel Rocks for the second time, *Vernon* lead on *Dione* by a little over four minutes; *Elspeth* was nearly eight minutes behind *Dione*. When *Vernon* rounded the race was 4 hours 6 minutes old. At that time *Aileen* had not reached Quarry Bay. The times at the finish were:—

|                      | h. | m. | s. |
|----------------------|----|----|----|
| <i>Vernon</i> .....  | 5  | 7  | 57 |
| <i>Dione</i> .....   | 5  | 12 | 55 |
| <i>Elspeth</i> ..... | 5  | 18 | 5  |

*Aileen* had not finished at 5.45 p.m.

The course was eleven miles.

## ONE-DESIGN CLASS.

The one-design class turned out yesterday—it was the third club race. At second gun fire *Min*, *Bonito*, and *Erica* had their anchors down to keep them from drifting astern. A miserable calm spoiled the day's sport. The wind, what little there was, came from the east. *Kathleen* was the only yacht to finish. Result:—*Kathleen*, 4 hours 57 minutes 55 seconds. *Min*, *Bonito*, and *Erica* did not finish.

## SECOND CLASS.

Seven second class yachts were started ten minutes after the one-designers:—*Doreen*, *Chanticleer*, *Gloria*, *Iris*, *Payne*, *Alannah*, and *Mist*. *Alannah*, who had had her anchor down, was first over the line. The race was not worth describing. Result:—*Chanticleer*, 5 hours 50 minutes 30 seconds. The rest did not finish.

At a recent meeting of the Shanghai Golf Club a suggestion was made and approved that a professional player be employed for two or three months during the golf season. The Golf Club's report, published last week, says: It is understood that the Hongkong Golf Club has secured a professional on a yearly contract, and an effort will be made to secure his services, if it is agreeable to the Hongkong Club.



## HONGKONG.

The rumour has been received about the sale of South American warships to Japan. Chile is said to be negotiating for the sale of two.

In the final tie for the lawn tennis championship of the Wigwam Club, Mr. H. Hancock has beaten Mr. N. S. P. Trimmingham by 3 sets to love (6-4, 6-1, 6-4).

The only cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony last week were the three of plague (all Chinese and all fatal) which we have already recorded.

In view of several inquiries made, we note that the proper form of now addressing H.E. Mr. F. H. May is "H.E. the Officer Administering the Government," and not the "Acting Governor."

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 22nd November, were 194 non-Chinese and 69 Chinese to the former, and 58 non-Chinese and 1,357 Chinese to the latter institution.

Gunner C. E. Ellis, left half No. 2 Co. H.K.V.A., has resigned the Volunteers. Mr. (now Gunner) E. Raymond joined the Volunteers on the 17th inst. He has been assigned to corps No. 748 and posted to No. 2 sub-division, right half No. 1 Co. H.K.V.A.

H.E. the Officer Administering the Government, accompanied by Mrs. May and by Captain M. R. Hurly, 93rd Burma Infantry, A.D.C., moved into Government House on the 21st inst. Mr. R. F. Johnston, Private Secretary, had already been there for the past three days.

Mr. R. Ponsonby, late private secretary to Sir J. West Ridgeway at Colombo, who is to be private secretary to H.E. Mr. F. H. May here, was to leave Colombo by the *Simla* yesterday. Until Mr. Ponsonby's arrival Mr. R. F. Johnston will be private secretary.

At a meeting of Victoria Lodge, 1,026 E.C., on the 20th inst. evening, Bro. C. W. Longuet (S.W.) was elected W.M. for the ensuing year in succession to Wor. Bro. E. H. Ray. Bro. W. S. Allen was elected treasurer in succession to Bro. E. Mirrow. Bro. J. Vanstone was re-elected tyler. All three elected accepted the offices.

Before leaving Sir Henry Blake presented a silver cigarette case to Sergt. Brazil, police officer at Government House. Lady Blake presented him with an album containing photographs of Sir Henry and herself. His Excellency also presented Inspector Gourlay, officer in charge of Government House, with a silver cigarette-case with inscription.

Yesterday being Queen Margherita's birthday, the warships in harbour dressed ship and a salute was fired at noon. Receptions were held on board the Italian cruiser *Galabria* and at the office of Consul-General Chev. Z. Volpicelli, No. 4, Duddell Street. The cruiser *Galabria* arrived from Shanghai on Thursday evening and saluted the port yesterday morning.

The construction of the new Kowloon water-works, we hear, was likely to affect the water supply of the Hongkong Steam Water Boat Co., Ltd. (whose annual report appears in another column), but Mr. J. W. Kew, the general manager, has arranged with the Government or five streams to be conserved for the supply of the Company's tanks, situated beyond Lai-chi-kok.

It was reported by the police on the 24th inst. that about 11 o'clock on the previous night a fire occurred at No. 132, Queen's Road East, premises used as a medicine-shop and shoe-shop. The Fire Brigade turned out under Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Assistant-Superintendent of Police. A plentiful supply of water was got from the street hydrants, and though the fire had obtained a good hold on the building in which it originated and was also spreading to the adjoining houses on each side before the Brigade arrived, it was not long before the flames were subdued. Ten hoses played on the flames. No. 132 was gutted. The outbreak originated on the ground floor. No. 131, an eating-house on the west, was badly damaged. No. 134 on the east was also badly burned. The ground floor of No. 132, in which the conflagration started, was insured for \$4,500 and the top floor of the two houses adjoining (which were used by the same occupier) for \$4,700. Sergeant R. Macdonald was the engineer in charge of the Brigade.

The estimated loss by the fire on the 22nd inst. at No. 10, Sai On Lane, Hongkong in a private godown used for storage of general merchandise, is \$50,000. The losers are:—Union Assurance Society, \$18,000; South British Insurance Co., \$11,000; Butterfield & Swire Insurance Offices, \$5,000; Chun On Insurance Co., \$6,500; Fook On Insurance Co., \$4,000; L'Union Insurance Co., \$6,000.

Poor sport was experienced at Taishan Island on the 22nd inst. The party consisted of four sportsmen. They went to Wo Soo, on Taishan Island, situated about six miles on the other side of Taishan Bay. Taishan Island is about four hours' launch journey from Hongkong. When they arrived they found "virgin" fresh green paddy fields. One man knocked down 15 brace (seven of quail, eight of snipe), the other three secured 15 brace between them. The leader of the party and others went to the same place on Sunday. They had first to secure a permit to land from the Kowloon Customs. When they arrived they found the fresh green paddy all cut. The result was poor sport, only a couple of brace being bagged. A few pigeons, also, were shot.

The American schooner *Lillebonne* was on the 20th inst. sold by Mr. Geo. P. Lammett. A launch left Blake Pier at about 10.30 a.m. to convey intending purchasers to the vessel. She was lying at No. 6, Buoy off Kowloon Docks. All her tackle, apparel, appurtenances, etc., formed one lot. The terms were that the vessel be at the purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer. One third of the purchase money was to be paid down, the balance on transfer. The sale commenced shortly after eleven o'clock. More or less keen competition between a few bidders ensued. Commencing at \$3,000 jumps were made at \$100 a time. Finally a representative of Messrs. Dodwell and Co., Ltd., secured her for \$8,000. The firm was acting on behalf of a non-resident. The *Lillebonne* is a vessel of some 150 tons. Considering that she is not a vessel of great use for trading in these parts, \$8,000 may be considered a good figure. At the same time the *Lillebonne* is well worth that sum.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Portuguese transport *Africa* arrived at Macao on the 22nd instant. She brought 200 men to replenish the garrison of that city, also some officers and crew for the gunboat *Diu*.

The *Shanghai Mercury*, Ltd., announces an interim dividend of five per cent. for the last half-year. An interim dividend of four per cent. is announced by the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company, Ltd.

On the 26th ult. several more steamers were chartered at Cardiff for the Far East, bringing up the total number of vessels chartered during the fortnight for Port Arthur, Shanghai, and the Japan ports to 24. The total quantity of coal carried in these vessels was between 110,000 and 120,000 tons.

Two Calcutta telegrams with reference to Tibet appear in the *Times of Ceylon*. The first runs: "Calcutta, November 4th.—The probability is that a forward move into Tibet will be made immediately. The 23rd and 32nd Pioneers and a company of Sappers and Miners, already on the frontier, will escort the Mission. A gun or two, and another native infantry regiment, will also be sent. Colonel MacDonald will command the forces; Major Iggulden will be attached; and Major Bretherton will be Commissariat Officer. The telegraph line, in spite of difficulties, has been laid to Kham-bajong. It is hoped that the demonstration will result in the Chinese and Tibetan officials realising that the Indian Government is determined to have a settlement of the questions at stake." The second is as follows: "Calcutta, November 6th.—The latest development on the Sikkim-Tibet border is that the Tibetans have turned back 500 yaks, which were being sent from Nepal for transport work with the British force. The yaks had been despatched without an escort and the Nepalese in charge had no option but to obey the orders of certain local Tibetan officials, who objected to their marching towards Sikkim. The British Commissioner will push on from Kham-bajong, the amount of transport collected indicating a forward move when all the necessary preparations are completed."

The revenue from tin alone in three of the four Federated Malay States only, during the first nine months of this year has been stated at something approaching seven and a quarter million dollars. Yet, says the *Straits Times*, though there is so much money to draw upon, many of the Government departments are undermanned.

A correspondent who recently went to South Africa writes:—"Talking of purchase in Hongkong, you will doubtless be as surprised as I was to learn that rattan furniture from Hongkong brings about four times its value in South Africa. My deck-chair, which cost me \$2.25, realised 25/- in Durban, whilst a rattan sofa worth \$5 or \$6 fetched a couple of guineas. The boats which you see building in shops along the Praya, small boats, costing about 6/- per foot, sell in Cape ports at 25/- per foot. There's a tip for anyone who knows how to take advantage of it."

## DOCKS IN THE FAR EAST.

The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company has a great deal of work now on hand. A close inspection of Saturday's returns however, fairly demonstrates that in the near future a large amount of tonnage must be transferred. Out of nine vessels at Kowloon Docks on Saturday, five were Government ships, two British men-of-war, two U.S. vessels, and one German. When the Royal Naval Dock is completed a deal of tonnage must be lost to the company. Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's new dock is also progressing. Outside Hongkong, Manila will shortly have a large floating dock. The Yokohama Dock Co., Ltd., with its two large dry-docks, are keenly competing for coastwise and other vessels. Messrs. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd., of Shanghai, are ever becoming more directly in competition with Hongkong. The Tanjong Pagar Dock Co., Ltd., of Singapore, is steadily growing in importance. There are, besides, smaller docks, such as Prai River Dock at Penang, in other parts of the Far East. Engineering, generally speaking, is part and parcel of the docking business, many docking companies—such as the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—advertising themselves as ship-builders. Competition in shipbuilding and engineering, it may be mentioned, is greater than ever. In Hongkong alone many firms are engaged in this line. If this increasing competition be detrimental to individual interests, it is conducive to general prosperity. There is room for all, and, from a shipowner's point of view, "the more the merrier."

## THE FOOCHOW ARSENAL.

A correspondent at Foochow writes to the *N.C. Daily News*:—"Your French contemporary (*L'Echo de Chine*) accused you recently of publishing 'inexact and malicious appreciations' of affairs at the Arsenal, but it could not make any specific charge, because you have only published the actual facts. Here are some more, both very important, from a French as well as a Chinese point of view:—

1.—It is well known that M. Doyère has been relieved of his functions at the Arsenal and replaced by M. Bertrand. The French Consul is just now very much occupied in carrying out the instructions that come to him from above. The idea seems to be to accede to all M. Doyère's demands, and excuse him from presenting his accounts, fanciful as they may be. Meanwhile the Arsenal is threatened with a demand for damages on the part of the French Compagnie Asiatique de Navigation. When this is settled the Chinese may provide themselves with a microscope to discover what they have gained by the Doyère mission.

2.—A French officer on active service is accused officially of sundry breaches of confidence, and of having failed to account for a vessel; not the whole of it, but a great part of it. The French Government does not deny the fact, which is undeniable, but suppresses it, as too small a matter to trouble an officer about. But is this likely to encourage the Chinese to do business with the French?



## COMMERCIAL.

## SILK.

SHANGHAI, 26th November.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill and Sons' of Shanghai, in their circular dated 19th November, state:—The home markets are weak, but price shows no quotable change. Raw Silk.—Holders still fight against lower prices and in consequence there is an utter absence of business. Yellow Silks.—A small business has been transacted at unchanged rates. Hand Filatures.—A few settlements of new style Filatures have been made for New York on the basis of Tls. 800 for Extra, but in the usual style Filatures there is no business doing. Steam Filatures:—A settlement of 120 bales Double Lion chop 1, 2 & 3 12/14 is reported at Tls. 800; this price cannot, however, be taken as a guide to the market. Waste Silk.—Very quiet, Tussah is still being taken @ Tals 29/29 for 60.40 cargo, but the demand is small.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 27th November.—The prices are slightly advancing, market being firm.

|                             |                  |      |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------|
| Sheklong, No. 1, White..... | \$8.60 to \$8.65 | pcls |
| Do. " 2, White.....         | 7.50 to 7.55     | "    |
| Do. No. 1, Brown.....       | 5.95 to 6.00     | "    |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....         | 5.80 to 5.85     | "    |
| Swatow, No. 1, White.....   | 8.45 to 8.50     | "    |
| Do. " 2, White.....         | 7.45 to 7.50     | "    |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....         | 5.80 to 5.85     | "    |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....         | 5.60 to 5.65     | "    |
| Foochow Sugar Candy.....    | 12.80 to 12.85   | "    |
| Sheklong ".....             | 10.75 to 10.80   | "    |

The Kobe Market Report of the 17th inst. contains the following:—Hongkong Refined.—Still no business to report, buyers ideas being too low. German Beet.—Market weak. Osaka Refined.—At auction on the 13th instant there were 3,800 bags sold at an average advance in price of 3 to 12 sen.

## RICE.

HONGKONG 27th November.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported.

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary.....                | \$2.90 to \$2.95 |
| " Round, Good quality.....           | 4.55 to 4.60     |
| " Long.....                          | 4.70 to 4.75     |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2..... | 3.40 to 3.45     |
| " Garden, " No. 1.....               | 4.25 to 4.30     |
| " White.....                         | 4.75 to 4.80     |
| " Fine Cargo.....                    | 5.10 to 5.25     |

It is reported that the new Japan crop will not come up to former estimates of the Agriculture Department of 47 million koku (a koku equals 5.13 bushels) but will only amount to from 43 to 45 million koku.

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—

Quotations are:—Allowance net. to 1 catty.

|                           |                    |            |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Malwa New.....            | \$920 to \$940     | per picul. |
| Malwa Old.....            | \$970 to \$990     | do.        |
| Malwa Older.....          | \$1,020 to \$1,040 | do.        |
| Malwa V. Old.....         | \$1,080 to \$1,100 | do.        |
| Persian fine quality..... | \$810 to —         | do.        |
| Persian extra fine.....   | \$820 to —         | do.        |
| Patna New.....            | \$1,125 to —       | per chest. |
| Patna Old.....            | to —               | do.        |
| Benares New.....          | \$1,130 to —       | do.        |
| Benares Old.....          | to —               | do.        |

## COAL.

HONGKONG, 27th November.—The following cargoes of Coal Expected:—s.s. *Tsurugisan Maru* from Japan with 5,000 tons (sold), *Hikosan Maru* 4,500 tons (sold), *Aisa Craig* 4,000 tons (sold), *Verona* 7,000 tons (sold), *Huron* 4,000 tons of Hongay (sold), *Hounslow* 4,000 tons for consumers.

Arrivals of coal up to date are:—24,500 tons from Moji (sold), 11,500 tons from Hongay (sold), 9,500 tons from Kuchinotsu (sold), 1,500 tons from Sydney (sold). Sales of Australian and Japanese, market firmer for the latter. The quotations are:—

|                     |                    |                   |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cardiff.....        | \$19.50 to \$21.00 | ex-ship offering. |
| Australian... 11.00 | —                  | " sellers.        |
| Yubari Lump 12.00   | —                  | " nominal.        |
| Milki Lump.. 10.00  | —                  | " nominal.        |
| Moji Lump...        | 6.50 to 10.00      | ex-ship, steady.  |

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORT.

Messrs. Noel, Murray and Company of Shanghai, in their trade report dated 19th November, state:—With the exception of an upward movement in exchange, more sudden if possible than the previous decline, nothing of a startling nature has arisen to derange our market during the interval. There are no fresh rumours of the peaceful settlement, or otherwise, of the questions that have disturbed the political atmosphere out here for so long, unless the apparently accidental discovery that the Chinese Army is scarcely in a state to take the field against a foreign foe is news to any one outside of the country itself! The next call in the game certainly seems to be up to the United States, and the other players are waiting to see if she will make Russia show her hand, or altogether repudiate the concessions she stipulated for in the Treaty just ratified. The further developments are anxiously waited for by all spectators of this great game of bluff. The improvement in exchange was sufficient to enable a fair amount of business to go through, chiefly in American sheetings, both for immediate delivery and forward a couple of months or so. With the exception of indents for quite a respectable quantity of Dyed Cotton makes, however, English goods have not participated in the demand to any extent. The freer arrivals of Cotton in Manchester seems to have had a stimulating effect on manufacturers who appear more willing to meet the requirements of the trade, though the question of delivery as early as is wanted is somewhat of a stumbling block. The dealers are undoubtedly anxious to have the goods, but the relatively unfavorable rates of forward exchange makes them hesitate. Advices from Newchwang have been so much more satisfactory to the native mind, that quite an unlooked-for spurt set in during the interval to buy goods for the last steamers which left yesterday morning; but so great seems to have been the enquiry for space, we understand an extra boat is clearing to-day. The goods taken are chiefly American makes, bought from stock in first hands, and the prices paid, though naturally below the replacing cost, leave satisfactory results. The slight revival in this trade has had a decidedly cheering effect on the dealers, as it seems to have been entirely unexpected. Private letters from the Port state that it is practically in the possession of the Russians, but at the same time the British, Americans and Germans have each a Gunboat docked there for the winter to protect the interests of their nationals. From Tientsin there is no encouragement, the state of the market being about as bad as it can be, and there seems to be an utter want of confidence. Ningpo is more satisfactory and a special demand for 8.4 lbs. Shirtings has set in. Hankow is short of cargo and wants to buy, but the merchants there appear to have had a good shaking up and are afraid to pay the prices ruling here. The mid-week quotation for Cotton in Liverpool came 5.98d., a decline of 16 points on the previous telegram, which was 6.14d. This is evidently only a temporary movement induced by the freer arrivals, and we understand that futures are much higher. Anyhow the temporary relief seems to have had the result mentioned above. The export for the first half of the month was 6,000,000 yards of Plain Cotton to Shanghai and Hongkong. From the States advices continue very strong and scarcely any buying is possible, though it is reported some one with great temerity has booked 500 bales Pepperell Drills at 10s. 10d. The rapid increase of production in the Southern States, especially during the last four years, is shown to be as follows, in an interesting article in *Cotton*, the official journal of the Manchester Cotton Association, by the record of spindles since 1860:—

|                         |           |           |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1860.....               | 295,359   | 1900..... | 6,267,163 |
| 1870.....               | 338,860   | 1901..... | 6,531,894 |
| 1880.....               | 561,360   | 1902..... | 7,512,982 |
| 1890.....               | 1,819,291 | 1903..... | 8,248,275 |
| 1895.....               | 3,177,310 |           |           |
| Total in operation..... | 6,889,454 |           | 6,405,993 |
| Idle.....               | 174,576   |           | 110,136   |
| New not completed.....  | 1,184,245 |           | 996,853   |

The average consumption of Cotton per spindle during the season 1902-3 was 136.44 lbs. giving a total of 2,000,729 bales, or a net increase of 1,453,835 bales since 1890. Considering the greater proportion of the goods turned out are of the lighter weights, Manchester has now a very strong competitor in the markets of the world.

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 18th November.—The prices following are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

|                                             |       |            |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|------------|
| Cowhides, best selected (Winter cargo) Tls. | 32.00 | per picul. |
| Do. seconds.....                            | 27.50 | "          |

|                                                       |        |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Buffalo hides, best selected.....                     | 22.00  | per picul. |
| Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour),..         | 64.00  | "          |
| Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each).....               | 10.50  | "          |
| White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi).....        | 11.80  | "          |
| White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu).....         | 11.00  | "          |
| Green China Grass (Szechuen).....                     | 12.00  | "          |
| Jute.....                                             | 5.10   | "          |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow).....                 | 11.20  | "          |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchow and/or Macheng)..... | 11.00  | "          |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu).....                  | 9.00   | "          |
| Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu).....                    | 14.00  | "          |
| Animal Tallow.....                                    | 11.20  | "          |
| Gallnuts (usual shape).....                           | 19.00  | "          |
| Do. (Plum) do.....                                    | 20.50  | "          |
| Tobacco (Tingchow).....                               | 6.80   | "          |
| Do. (Wongkong).....                                   | 11.00  | "          |
| Black Bristles.....                                   | 118.00 | "          |
| Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck).....                | 20.50  | "          |
| Turmeric.....                                         | 3.60   | "          |
| Sesamum Seed.....                                     | 3.80   | "          |
| Sesamum Seed Oil.....                                 | 7.50   | "          |
| Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil.....                        | 7.40   | "          |
| Wood Oil.....                                         | 7.50   | "          |
| Tea Oil.....                                          | 7.40   | "          |

Per P. & O. Steamer *Malta*, sailed on 21st November. For London:—150 bales waste silk, 55 bales raw silk, 3 cases feathers, 6 packages rattanware, 11 packages tea, 4 cases cigars. For Marseilles:—60 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For London and/or Manchester:—174 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—145 bales raw silk.

## SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 27th November, 1903.—Enquiry continues good, but business is still restricted owing to the difficulty of connecting buyer and seller. During the week under review a further rise has to be recorded in Banks and China Sugars, though in the latter the upward movement has apparently been retarded for the time being.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have advanced to \$650 with sales and further buyers at this and probably \$65 1/2. The last quotation to hand from London is £62 10s. 0d. Nationals are unaltered at \$29 buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been booked at \$492 1/2, and China Traders at \$60 1/2, closing quiet. Cantons have sold and have further sellers at \$175. North Chinas have advanced in the North to Tls. 220.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Quotations are unchanged at \$320 and \$90 respectively for Hongkongs and Chinas with sellers, though for the latter there is a small enquiry at slightly less than the quoted rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed ownership at \$30, and more shares are enquired for. China and Manilas continue on offer at \$19. Indo-Chinas have firmed up, and sales have been effected at from \$73 1/2 to \$76 closing in further request at \$75. Douglasses have been booked at \$30, and Shell Transports at 21s. Star Ferries have improved to \$27 and \$16 1/2 with buyers for the old and new issues respectively.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued to attract attention, and sales have been effected up to \$106 cash, and \$108 and \$109 for February and March delivery respectively. At the close the market is somewhat easier with small lots of cash shares obtainable at \$105. Luzons are unaltered with sellers at \$10.

MINING.—We have heard of no business under this head, and have no change to make in quotations.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have steadily improved, and can now be placed at \$207. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are also firmer and are now enquired for at the advanced rate of \$88 1/2. New Amoy Docks are still on offer at \$38. Farnhams after advancing to Tls. 127 1/2 in the north are now quoted at Tls. 125 with buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have further declined and are now obtainable at \$151. Kowloon Lands and West Points are unchanged with sellers at \$35 and \$52 1/2 respectively. Humphreys Estates have improved to \$11 with sales and probable further buyers. Hongkong Hotels have sold at \$146.

COTTON MILLS.—No business has transpired under this head. Hongkongs continue in request at \$15.



MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$23 and are now in request at \$23½. China Borneo have declined to \$8 sellers. Watsons have sold and are in further request at \$14½. Ices are easier with sellers at \$245. Steam Water Boats are wanted at \$15½ ex the final dividend of 6 per cent. per share for the year ended 30th September, 1903 paid on the 25th inst. Bell's Asbestos are easier with sellers at \$5. China Providents have sold and are in further request at \$9.

MEMO.—China Trade Insurance Co. Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 8th December.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                                            | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Banks—                                              |          |                                       |
| Hongkong & Shanghai                                 | \$125    | (\$650, buyers<br>(London, £62. 10s.) |
| Natl. Bank of China                                 |          |                                       |
| A. Shares                                           | £8       | \$29, buyers                          |
| B. Shares                                           | £8       | \$29, buyers                          |
| Foun. Shares                                        | £1       | \$10                                  |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.                               | £1       | \$5, sellers                          |
| Canton, Hongkong Ice                                | \$10     | \$10, nominal                         |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.                               | \$10     | \$40,                                 |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd.                              | \$12     | \$8, sellers                          |
| China Light & Power Co., Ltd.                       | \$10     | \$5                                   |
| China Prov. L. & M.                                 | \$10     | \$8.90 buyers                         |
| China Sugar                                         | \$100    | \$105, sales                          |
| Cigar Companies—                                    |          |                                       |
| Alhambra Limited.                                   | \$500    | \$250                                 |
| Philippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.                  | \$50     | \$15, sellers                         |
| Cotton Mills—                                       |          |                                       |
| Ewo                                                 | Tls. 100 | Tls. 35                               |
| International                                       | Tls. 75  | Tls. 22½                              |
| Laon Kung Mow                                       | Tls. 100 | Tls. 35                               |
| Soychee                                             | Tls. 500 | Tls. 160                              |
| Hongkong                                            | \$10     | \$15, buyers                          |
| Dairy Farm                                          | \$6      | \$12½                                 |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.                                 | \$25     | \$47½                                 |
| Green Island Cement                                 | \$10     | \$23½, buyers                         |
| H. & C. Bakery                                      | \$50     | \$40                                  |
| Hongkong & C. Gas                                   | \$10     | \$140, buyers                         |
| Hongkong Electric                                   | \$5      | \$6½, buyers                          |
| H. H. L. Tramways                                   | \$100    | \$320, sellers                        |
| Hk. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ltd.                      | \$10     | (\$15½, ex div.,<br>buyers            |
| Hongkong Hotel                                      | \$50     | \$146, sales & sellers                |
| Hongkong Ice                                        | \$25     | \$245, sellers                        |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.                                  | \$50     | \$88½, buyers                         |
| Hongkong Rope                                       | \$50     | \$145                                 |
| H. & W. Dock                                        | \$50     | \$207½                                |
| Insurance—                                          |          |                                       |
| Canton                                              | \$50     | \$175, sales                          |
| China Fire                                          | \$60     | \$90, sellers                         |
| China Traders                                       | \$25     | \$61, sellers                         |
| Hongkong Fire                                       | \$50     | \$320, sellers                        |
| North China                                         | £25      | Tls. 220                              |
| Union                                               | \$100    | \$402½, sales &<br>sellers            |
| Yangtze                                             | \$60     | \$135 [sellers]                       |
| Land and Building—                                  |          |                                       |
| Hongkong Land Inv.                                  | \$100    | \$151, sellers                        |
| Humphreys Estate                                    | \$10     | \$11, sales                           |
| Kowloon Land & B.                                   | \$30     | \$35                                  |
| West Point Building                                 | \$50     | \$52½, sellers                        |
| Luzon Sugar                                         | \$100    | \$10, sellers                         |
| Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.                            | \$50     | \$15 sellers                          |
| Mining—                                             |          |                                       |
| Charbonnages                                        | Fcs. 250 | \$600, sellers                        |
| Jelebu                                              | \$5      | 50 cents, sellers                     |
| Punjom                                              | \$11     | \$1.50, sellers                       |
| Do. Preference                                      | \$1      | 30 cents                              |
| Raub                                                | 18/10    | \$8, sellers                          |
| New Amoy Dock                                       | \$6½     | \$38, sellers                         |
| Powell, Ltd.                                        | \$10     | \$8½, buyers                          |
| Steamship Coys.—                                    |          |                                       |
| China and Manila                                    | \$50     | \$19, sellers                         |
| Douglas Steamship                                   | \$50     | \$30, sales                           |
| H. Canton and M.                                    | \$15     | \$30, buyers                          |
| Indo-China S. N.                                    | £10      | \$75, buyers                          |
| Shell Transport and Trading Co.                     | £1       | £1. 1s.                               |
| Star Ferry                                          | \$10     | (\$27, buyers<br>(\$16½, buyers       |
| S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ltd.                           | Tls. 100 | Tls. 125, buyers                      |
| Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd. | \$50     | \$50,                                 |
| Tebrau Planting Co.                                 | \$5      | nominal                               |
| United Abestos                                      | \$4      | \$9, buyers                           |
| Do.                                                 | \$10     | \$210 buyers                          |
| Universal Trading Co., Ltd.                         | \$20     | \$23, buyers                          |
| Watkins Ltd.                                        | \$10     | \$7½, sellers                         |
| Watson & Co., A. S.                                 | \$10     | \$14½, sales & buyers                 |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 24th November.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. of Shanghai, in their circular dated 20th inst., state:—A fairly large business has been done this week at varying rates, but closing all round on a higher basis than our last week's return. Besides our three principal stocks, viz:—Langkats, Farnhams, and Indo-Chinas, there is practically nothing changing hands. The T. T. rate is 2/5½. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai banks have improved considerably and are quoted from Hongkong at \$64½. We believe a transaction was put through at \$66½ for February but not officially quoted. The London quotation is £64 15s. Marine Insurance.—China Traders have been dealt in at \$59½.—North China shares have slightly receded to Tls. 220 Yangtze have been placed at \$135. Fire Insurance.—Nothing reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. There has been a brisk demand for cash, November and December shares, while the forward market beyond that date is very weak. Prices have improved from Tls. 52 to 54 cash: December 52, 54, 55 and 56½ are recorded closing weak. For March Tls. 52½, 54, 53 and 52 are recorded. Dock and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. There is still a good demand for shares and we close steady at Tls. 122½ for cash, 124½/125 December and 126 March. It is somewhat difficult without an actual firm offer, however, to know the market price. Hongkong Docks are quoted at \$203 buyers. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have been placed at Tls. 215 for cash. Sugar Cos. Nothing reported. Mining.—Nothing reported. Lands.—Shanghais have been dealt in this week at Tls. 100½ and 103 for cash. Industrial.—Cottons. Ewos at \$35. Low Kung Mows at \$35. Pulpas have changed hands at 107½ for cash. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. During the week notice has been given of a 5th interim dividend of \$7.50 per share to be paid on the 15th December, making to date a total payment of \$35 for the year ending 31st October. A large business has been done since our last, and we have advanced from \$283½ for cash and November, to \$290 for December. All rates from 286½ to 29½ have been returned. For January we close at \$295 and for March 305. Our market is too erratic to make it worth while to detail every rate on each day. Stores and Hotels.—Centrals have been negotiated at \$26. Miscellaneous.—A single transaction in Telephone at \$67 cash is reported. Loans.—Astor House Hotel Debentures 8 per cent. \$100. Shanghai Gas 6 per cent. \$100. Shanghai Land 5 per cent. at \$90, and Municipal Dbs. at \$101.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 20th November.

ON LONDON.—

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Telegraphic Transfer                | 1/8½        |
| Bank Bills, on demand               | 1/8½        |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight       | 1/9         |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight      | 1/9 ¾       |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight         | 1/9 ¾       |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight  | 1/9 ¾       |
| ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand     | 219½        |
| ON GERMANY.—Credits 4 months' sight | 178½        |
| On demand                           | 182         |
| ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand  | 42½         |
| Credits, 60 days' sight             | 42½         |
| ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer     | 129½        |
| Bank, on demand                     | 130         |
| ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer   | 129½        |
| Bank, on demand                     | 130         |
| ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight         | 71½         |
| Private, 30 days' sight             | 72½         |
| ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand              | 84½         |
| ON MANILA.—On demand                | nominal     |
| ON SINGAPORE.—On demand             | nominal     |
| ON BATAVIA.—On demand               | 105         |
| ON HAIPHONG.—On demand              | 1½ p.c. pm. |
| ON SAIGON.—On demand                | 1½ p.c. pm. |
| ON BANGKOK.—On demand               | 63½         |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate      | \$11.55     |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael       | 60.25       |
| BAR SILVER, per oz.                 | 2½          |

TEA FREIGHTS.

Some of the latest tea freights from Shanghai are as follows:—For London.—45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. per Glenshiel on 26th inst., per Malta on 17th inst., and Polyphemus on 20th inst. For New York via Suez.—25/- per ton of 40 c. ft.; per Hermiston on 21st inst., and Orono on 25th inst. For New York per Mail Steam and Overland.—1½ cents gold per lb. gross, per Doric on 18th inst., and Empress of India on 21st inst.

Per Conference Steamers. To London & Northern Continental ports:—Tea 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet; General cargo 52/6 per ton 40 cubic feet; Seeds 47/6 per ton 20 cwt. To Marseilles and Havre, General 48/- net per ton of 40 cubic feet; Seeds 47/6 net, per ton of 20 cwt. To New York (overland) Tea 1½ gold dollar cents per lb gross (via Suez) 30/- per ton of 40 cubic feet. To Shanghai:—Tea Tls. 1.80 per ton of 13 half-chests; General Tls. 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

November —

- 20, Ballarat, British str., from Bombay.
- 20, Binh Thuan, French str., from Manila.
- 20, Chwnshan, British str., from Samarang
- 20, Eastern, British str., from Sydney.
- 20, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 20, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 20, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
- 20, Malta, British str., from Shanghai.
- 20, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 20, Oro, British str., from Amoy.
- 20, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
- 20, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 21, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
- 21, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
- 21, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
- 21, Talbot, British cruiser, from Yokohama.
- 21, Tingsang, British str., from Newchwang.
- 22, Amigo, German str., from Newchwang.
- 22, Clavering, British str., from Moji.
- 22, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 22, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 22, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
- 22, Iehang, British str., from Canton.
- 22, Lydia, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 22, Marburg, German str., from Shanghai.
- 22, Osborne, British str., from New York.
- 22, P. C. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
- 22, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
- 22, Taiwan, British str., from Chinkiang
- 22, Yiksang, British str., from Canton.
- 23, Babelsberg, German str., from Singapore.
- 23, Elis, Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
- 23, Hamburg, German str., from Shanghai.
- 23, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 23, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 23, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 23, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 23, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 23, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
- 23, Siberia, American str., from S. Francisco.
- 23, Teenkai, British str., from Liverpool.
- 24, Diu, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
- 24, Empress of Japan, Br. str., from Vancouver.
- 24, Esang, British str., from Canton.
- 24, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
- 24, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
- 24, Hopsang, British str., from Moji.
- 24, Okean, Russian trspt., from Vladivostock.
- 24, Phra Nang, German str., from Bangkok.
- 24, Windsor, British str., from Moji.
- 25, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from H'phong.
- 25, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 25, Hangsang, British str., from Wuhu.
- 25, Konig Albert, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
- 25, Nurnberg, German str., from Hamburg.
- 25, Phra C. Klao, German str., from Singapore.
- 25, Polyphemus, Dutch str., from Shanghai.
- 25, Tremont, American str., from Tacoma.
- 25, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
- 25, Waihora, British str., from Hoibow.
- 26, Ceylon, British str., from London.
- 26, Changchow, British str., from Shanghai.
- 26, Daphne, German str., from Singapore.
- 26, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
- 26, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from N'chwang.
- 26, Laos, French str., from Haiphong.
- 26, Mathilde, German str., from Hoibow.
- 26, M. Struve, German str., from Haiphong.
- 26, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.
- 26, Sado Maru, Japanese str., from Yokohama.
- 26, Taiping, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 27, Africa, Portuguese trspt., from Macao.
- 27, Amara, British str., from Moji.
- 27, Chatearenault, French cr., from Amoy.
- 27, Fausang, British str., from Nagasaki.
- 27, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
- 27, Hongkong, French str., from Hongkong.
- 27, Huron, British str., from Kutchinotsu.



27, Idsumi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.  
 27, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.  
 27, Pelena, British str., from Liverpool.  
 27, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.  
 27, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Swatow.  
 27, Seledon, British str., from Weihaiwei.  
 27, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Amoy.

#### November—DEPARTURES.

20, Aragonia, German str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.  
 20, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
 20, Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.  
 20, Ningchow, British str., for Liverpool.  
 20, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.  
 20, Tamba Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 20, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 20, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., for Karatsu.  
 20, Whamoa, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Woosung, British str., for Canton.  
 21, Ballarat, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.  
 21, Empire, British str., for Australia.  
 21, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Holstein, German str., for Hongay.  
 21, Hupeh, British str., for Cebu and Iloilo.  
 21, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Malta, British str., for Europe.  
 21, Mandasan Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.  
 21, Marie Jepsen, German str., for Singapore.  
 21, Nippon, Australia str., for Manila.  
 21, Perla, British str., for Manila.  
 21, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
 21, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.  
 22, Algerine, British sloop, for Mira Bay.  
 22, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.  
 22, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 22, Sullberg, German str., for Port Arthur.  
 23, Calabria, Italian cruiser for Singapore.  
 23, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.  
 23, Humber, British storeship, for Weihaiwei.  
 23, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 23, Oro, British str., for Manila.  
 23, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.  
 23, Teenkai, British str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Amigo, German str., for Canton.  
 24, Benvorlich, British str., for Calcutta.  
 24, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.  
 24, Hinsang, British str., for Sourabaya.  
 24, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 24, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.  
 24, Lydia, German str., for Canton.  
 24, Lyceomoon, German str., for Canton.  
 24, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.  
 24, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.  
 24, Tings ng, British str., for Canton.  
 24, Wongkoi, German str., for Swatow.  
 24, Yeddo, British str., for Manila.  
 24, Yiksang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 25, Arratoon Apear, British str., for Calcutta.  
 25, Babelsberg, German str., for Amoy.  
 25, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
 25, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
 25, Hamburg, German str., for Europe.  
 25, Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.  
 25, Ichang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 25, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.  
 25, Marburg, German str., for Hamburg.  
 25, Michael Jepsen, German str., for Hoihow.  
 25, Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.  
 25, Olympia, American str., for Tacoma.  
 25, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.  
 26, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 26, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.  
 26, Hipsang, British str., for Canton.  
 26, Hiroshima Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.  
 26, Konig Albert, German str., for Shanghai.  
 26, Lillebonne, American str., for Manila.  
 26, Oceana, German str., for Sydney.  
 26, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.  
 26, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.  
 26, Talle, German str., for Swatow.  
 26, Undine, Norwegian str., for Kobe.  
 26, Victoria, Swedish str., for Saigon.  
 26, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.  
 27, Binh Thuan, French str., for Kobe.  
 27, Changchow, British str., for Canton.  
 27, China, German str., for Saigon.  
 27, Daphne, German str., for Amoy.  
 27, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.  
 27, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 27, Idsumi Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.  
 27, Laos, French str., for Manila.  
 27, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.  
 27, Ukean, Russian transport, for Singapore.  
 27, Taiping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.  
 27, Waihora, British str., for Amoy.

#### PASSENGER LIST.

##### ARRIVED.

Per *Malta*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. Munchmeyer, Freedui, Fetterolf and Minniti; for Colombo, H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., Lady Blake, Sir John Keane, Bart., for Bombay, Major and Mrs. Ayerst and Capt. Peiniger; for Sydney, Mr. Fred. Andrews and Miss Margaret Andrews; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Middlekauff, Mrs. and two Misses Hall, Revs. J. C. Orr and W. F. Baily; for London, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Spring, Mrs. Lyn Miller, Mrs. Radcliffe, Capt. Baaham Thoruhill, Lieut. Ensor, Messrs. C. C. Mead, J. E. Rooney, and C. S. Weir; from Kobe, for Singapore, Mrs. Abell; from Shanghai, for Bombay, Mr. R. Vioragea; for London, Misses B. L. Frewer, H. Clayton, C. E. Cornford, H. W. Dowling, Lew, and B. H. Pearson, Lieut. Grant Duff, R.M., and Mr. J. B. Okolovitch.

Per *Ballaarat*, from Bombay, for Hongkong, Messrs. E. Dorbajee, M. Miyabhai, R. S. Doshi, R. C. Doshi and T. K. Doshi; for Shanghai, Mr. A. D. Shanks; from Colombo, for Hongkong, Mrs. Chichester; from London, Misses E. Houlden, Massery, Heast and Cardews, Lt. J. M. Smith, Lt. J. B. Shipton, Mr. D. J. Donovan; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Bowan and child, Mrs. Moorhead and child, Misses Gilliard, Green and Cromarty, Rev. Robbins, Mr. P. Lamke; from Marseilles, for Hongkong, Miss Covell, Capt. H. C. Hill; for Shanghai, Mrs. Ventris, Misses H. Campbell and Pomeroy, Messrs. E. R. Willams, A. W. Brankstorm and Tripp; from Colombo, Miss M. Scott; from Penang, for Hongkong, Mr. Ferrers; from Singapore, Messrs. Karl Smidt, Bidwell, E. Hiltermann, and W. B. Fakikawa.

Per *Siberia*, from San Francisco, &c., Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Beet, Rev. and Mrs. W. G. McClure, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Buck and son, Mrs. L. P. Davenport, Mrs. H. E. Heacock, Mrs. Moyo Hita, Mrs. E. A. Wellman, Mrs. M. P. Keane, Mrs. J. H. Gill, Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Van Vleet, Mrs. E. E. Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Azra Dyer, Mrs. R. E. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Barton, Lieut. and Mrs. A. H. Potter, Rev. F. Eckerson, Comdr. H. Osterhaus, Dr. N. G. K. Meyer, Rev. Father Jose Algue, Capt. F. W. Cole, Dr. C. L. Bare and family, Dr. J. L. Morrison, Lieut. C. R. Miller, U.S.N., Misses I. M. Cartwright, Condon, J. Craven, M. Meaus, P. McFarland, M. Wilson, and C. J. Carnahan, Messrs. L. S. Block, M. G. Miller, W. B. Walker, Wm. Yule and son, B. Stiebel, H. Bartholome, J. Willemier, A. Beattie, Ramon Trinidad, August Fuster, L. H. Hargis, F. O. Manon, C.E.U.S.N., J. Abeles, J. C. Wilson, E. C. Bellows, M. Abeles, C. E. Dewey, R. H. Sherman, Geo. P. Linden, M.S. Corning, U.S.N., F. R. Naile, U.S.N., Eugene Riva, and W. F. McLaughlin.

Per *Hamburg*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. A. Albert, Mr. Bennett; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Weinberg and Mr. and Mrs. R. Glaser, Mrs. F. Lyons, Dr. Marg Fitch, Rev. J. M. Hannez, Rev. S. M. Hannez, Count Yesierky, Messrs. H. Müller, M. de la Serre, Vicomte du Halgonet, Mr. Landes, Herr Y. Silbermann, F. Meng, E. Tutelmann and E. Wilson; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. F. Stone, Lieut. v. Heyden, Mrs. H. Laighton and Mrs. A. W. Booth.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Mrs. J. Braner, Mrs. T. W. Carey, Mr. and Mrs. May Ding and three children, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Squires, Misses S. T. Hatch, R. S. McLaurin, K. McBurney, and J. McBurney, and Mr. J. C. B. Adams; from Yokohama, Major and Mrs. Robinson and Miss E. Riching; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Hector, Mr. and Mrs. L. Govett, Miss Govett, Prof. and Mrs. E. H. Sharp, Mr. and Miss Williams, Messrs. J. Goodbody and H. D. Darbyshire; from Nagasaki, Capt. A. Jaquet and Comdr. Guerin; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. C. Wood, Mrs. and Miss Raymond, Mrs. T. Nolle, Capt. and Mrs. Hewett, Miss Roberts, Messrs. W. H. Bain, R. H. Baker, W. Borford, C. D. Kalding, and Anderson.

Per *Konig Albert*, from Hamburg, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. C. Schallenbach, Mr. and Mrs. F. v. Ristowsky, Mrs. Grunschaw and

child, Mrs. Stapleton and family, Mrs. Stubbing and child, Mrs. Faithfull Dewies, Misses Sophie Bradtland and A. Sebill, Revs. J. Jenkins, J. Parker, J. Ridler, and Lloyd and family, Capt. Fraser and A. G. Cowie, Messrs. W. Kimappel, P. Wurthmann, A. Künall, Ch. Gsell, Ewens, A. R. Barzazas, E. Lund, J. J. Buttler, W. Schattschneider, H. F. Carmichael, Zimmermann, C. Curie and family, James Bauch, G. Chausse, Ch. Scott, and Ch. Bourness.

##### DEPARTED.

Per *Malta*, from Kobe, for Hongkong, Miss Andrews, Messrs. F. Andrews and H. D. Shalard; for Singapore, Mrs. Abell; from Shanghai, for Hongkong, General and Mrs. Winslow, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Scull, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gedga, Hon. A. M. Thompson, Rev. H. V. Norris, Dr. Gillard, Miss Bolton, Messrs. G. E. Tucker, A. Simon, Hartman, E. H. Sharpe, Pelling, L. C. Pareto, W. Crook, O. Mordhurst, C. S. Champness, and Bastein; for Bombay, Mr. R. Veckagee; for London, via Marseilles, Misses B. L. Frewer, H. Clayton, and C. E. Cornford; for London, Lieut. Grant Duff, R.M., Messrs. H. W. Dowling, Jew, B. H. Pearson, and J. B. Okolovitch.

Per *Empire*, for Australia, &c., Mrs. Emanuel, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Pope, Mr. and Mrs. Tin Quoy and children, Mrs. A. Tollhurst, Miss Tollhurst, Messrs. Ainley, Marcus Clark, C. Georg, F. Hardy, Max. Rennel, H. L. Thornton, and E. B. Tredwen.

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